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A LITTLE JOURNEY TO AUSTRALIA

FOR INTERMEDIATE AND UPPER GRADES

By
MARIAN M. GEORGE

CHICAGO
A. FLANAGAN COMPANY

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A Little Journey to Australia.

How would you like to go on a voyage of discovery to the south pole? After all, when we would get there, we could probably see nothing but water, or great fields of ice.

But we are anxious to learn of the southlands, so suppose we go on a journey to the farthest southland of which we know. That is Australia, and the islands of Tasmania and New Zealand.

If we go there we will have a journey of new experiences. We never before have been on so long an ocean voyage. Never have we been so far from home. What will we find in this far away land? Do people there live in large cities? Do they have large homes like ours, and do the boys and girls have any fun? Do they go to school, and do you suppose they ever took a little journey to the United States? Perhaps they are asking these very questions about us.

We have heard that there are many queer things in Australia; but America would doubtless seem as strange to the people of that country.

It will be delightful to visit a country where we may see new, and, to us, strange things. We will doubtless have many surprises before we return, and learn much of a country and people of whom we know so little.

Let us find out where this country is, and learn what we can of its location, size and history, before commencing our journey.

HISTORY.

The history of Australia is very interesting, and in the early days full of adventure. It was probably first seen by Dutch sailors in 1606, but they did not think of making settlements in this far away country.

After Captain Cook had discovered the Hawaiian Islands, in the same year, 1778, he cruised to the

KANGAROOS AT HOME.

south, in and out among the small, rocky islands, finally coming to a very large one. He might have thought it one of the East India Islands, but after

AN ABORIGINE OF AUSTRALIA.

coasting along its shores for some distance, he concluded it was a new country. He saw no white people, and the natives looked some like those he had seen on the little islands in the Pacific.

Captain Cook was an Englishman in the service of his government. He told his countrymen of the great island he thought he had discovered, but they were too busy to think much about it. At that time the United States were fighting against them for independence, and the English were more anxious to keep our great, rich country than to make settlements in a new one.

After the Revolutionary war was ended, and the English had lost the thirteen colonies in America, their king, George III, was in favor of making settlement in a new country.

What Captain Cook had told them years ago of the great southern island was now remembered, and preparations were made to found a new settlement.

But the country was so far away, very few were willing to go. The subject was talked of a great deal in England, and finally a plan was made.

Inasmuch as the English government could not find volunteers to go, they decided that the settlement should be made from the large number of convicts then in the jails and prisons. These people had no choice. If they were ordered to go, there was nothing to do but to obey.

The first ship load of settlers destined for the new land contained seven hundred fifty-seven convicts. Among these were about two hundred women and eighteen children. With them were one hundred and sixty soldiers. All of these, with the officers of the ship, amounted to one thousand thirty persons, who, in January, 1788, left England for a voyage more than twice as long as one to America would have been.

Do you imagine that they were glad to go? They were happy to get out of prison, but the ship proved to be another prison. They were kept closely confined in cages during the entire voyage. Soldiers with loaded guns constantly paced the decks, and the strictest order was kept.

All this may sound very cruel, but if the officers of the ship had given them the freedom that passengers have, the ship would probably never have arrived at its destination. There would have been a mutiny, and there is no end to the harm that might have been done, and the lives that would have been taken.

Although there were some very dangerous criminals on board, we must not think of all of the number belonging to that class. The word convict is a bad sounding one, and in our country it means a criminal to be shunned; but in England it was very different at that time.

Many of those poor, unfortunate people were respectable and honest, yet they were convicts. This surprises us, but let us see what were some of the offenses for which they were imprisoned. In England, if a man owed even a small debt and could not pay it, he was put into jail and kept for months. His poor wife and children thus had their only support taken away from them. They were often driven to begging to keep from starving. If they should get so hungry as to steal, they, too, were put into prison. Among the prisoners were found men who had caught a fish from a private pond, or had shot a rabbit on somebody's ground.

While this was not right, we would scarcely think a

man should go to a dark, dismal prison, and stay months for such an offense. Added to his confinement was the fact that he had the coarsest and poorest of food. This treatment often made people who had tried to be honest, turn into bad men and women. They had nothing to do but to think of their wrongs' and it often made them ugly and revengeful. Others preserved their gentle dispositions all through their trials, and when restored to their families, led upright lives.

The landing of this strange ship load was made at Sydney, which we shall soon visit.

Civilized Native Girls.

For a long time everything was under the strictest military rule in the new settlement. The men were obliged to work steadily, at first building homes and laying out streets. One of the first buildings to be put

up was a little church. Every settler was obliged to go to service on Sunday. If they did not do so they were publicly flogged. This form of punishment was very common.

We wonder why they did not try to escape. Sometimes they did make the attempt, but it was almost sure death. If they were caught they were either hanged or shot. If they escaped to the bush, as the woods of Australia are called, they were almost always caught and killed by the savages. There was no hope to escape by sea, as no ships came to this lonely port in the first days of the settlement.

After a time the affairs of the town became more settled, and the people began to take pride in their little homes, their gardens, and their industries. As they had more freedom they improved in every way, and finally became a prosperous town.

More settlements of the same kind were made by the English in this vicinity, and finally people no longer dreaded to undertake the long voyage, or make homes in the new country.

Capitalists then followed to the new country and founded manufacturing establishments, and many industries in which the people could earn good wages were started.

As the years advanced those who had come from England as convicts were respectable and earning honest livings. They had nice homes and happy families. The children went to church and to school, and everything prospered.

Many of the nicest families now living in Australia are descended from the convicts. No one in that

country ever refers to this fact. It would be very unkind. Don't you think so? We remember that many of those unfortunate people suffered cruelly for some slight offense, and it is not right that their innocent descendants should be reminded of what they could not help.

The early settlements of Australia were all made in the southeastern part, in what is called New South Wales, named for the Wales of Great Britain. From here people have emigrated to the far west and north, making their settlements on or near the coast. In this respect Australia has grown in much the same way that our United States has. We remember that our early homes were built along the Atlantic coast, and from there pushed westward to the shores of the Pacific.

Australia has many large cities, busy towns, and flourishing farms or ranches, and when we visit them we shall find them very much like the thriving cities and farms of our own country. Everything in the great island will interest us more when we remember the hardships and struggles of the early settlers.

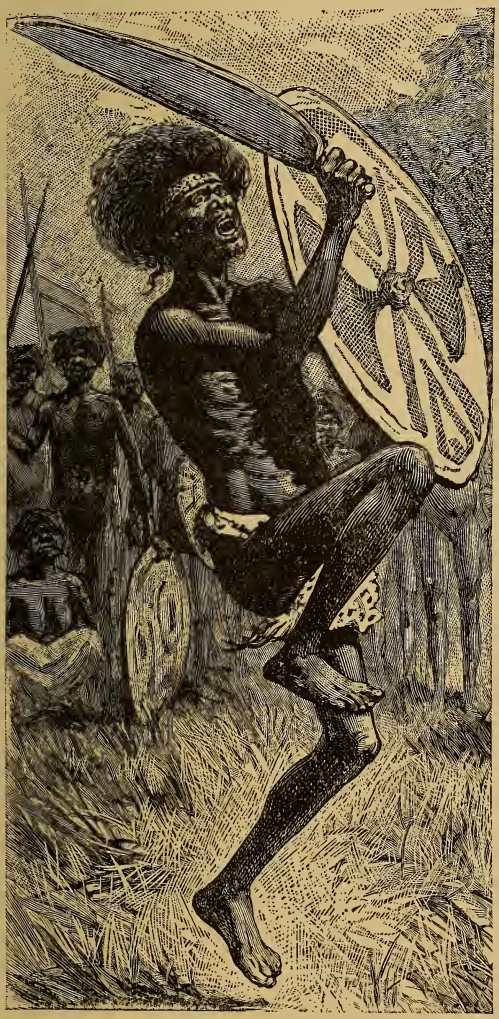
CLIMATE.

Australia is such a big continent that we must expect quite a variety of climate.

We are visiting the country in its most favorable season, winter. "Winter!" you exclaim. "This is June, not winter." But we must not forget that Australia is south of the Equator, and that makes all of the difference in the world.

When the sun is traveling north it is nearer us and

we have summer, at the same time it is farther from them, and they have winter. So June, July and August are the winter months of Australia.



AUSTRALIA TYPE.

We see the sun in the south. They see it in the north. We shall find many things by opposites in this great south land.

A country of few rivers and lakes has little rain. You think this might be remedied by the ocean, but look on the map and you will see the greater part of the coast lined with mountains. These prevent the vapor from passing over to the thirsty interior. Occasionally the clouds will struggle over the mountains and then there will be a drenching rain.

Much that would be good for farm land is now useless on account of lack of water. In some places artesian wells have been dug with success.

In the hottest portion of the interior, hot, terrible winds sweep over the deserts, piling up the sand in small hills. These winds, which are called monsoons, last for months.

At that time there are also fierce fires, which rage through the bush and over the grassy plains. The terrible forest fires in our country will give us an idea of the ruin they carry to all vegetation, and the danger to the lives of those who work in the forests or prairies.

We shall see very little snow in Australia, even in the mountains, which are nowhere very high.

The climate of Australia, though so much hotter than that of America, is not so trying as we are inclined to think. This is because the air is so much drier. Intense heat or intense cold is quite easily endured if the air is dry.

The pleasantest climate of the continent is known on the eastern and southern coasts. This is more like that of our own country. Tourists say that the autumn months of March, April and May, are the most agreeable, still we must consider ourselves quite fortunate to make the trip in early winter.

LOCATION, SIZE, AND SURFACE.

Australia is about 8,000 miles from the United States.

It is located in the southern hemisphere, south of the Equator. The northern half is in the hot or torrid

OCEANIA.
ON MERCATOR PROJECTION.
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Longitude East from Greenwich.
Longitude West from Greenwich.
CHINA SEA
CHINA
Amoy
Canton
Hong-kong
Macao
Foo-Chow
Formosa
Taiwan
Ryukyu Is. (To Japan)
Volcano Is.
Bonin Is.
Marcus I.
Los Jardines I.
Wake I. (U. S.)
Marianne or Ladrone Islands (Ger.)
Guam I.
Egoi Is. (U. S.)
Philippine Islands
Luzon
Manila
Mindoro I.
Samar I.
Palawan I.
Mindanao
Sulu I.
Celebes Sea
Pelew Is.
Caroline Islands (Ger.)
Ponapi I.
Kusaiev I.
Marshall Is.
Greenwich I.
Cure I.
Midway or Brook I.
Lisiansky I.
Laysan I.
Gardner I.
Tropic of Cancer
Honolulu
Oahu
Hawaii (U. S.)
Hawaii I.
(Sandwich Is.)
Palmyra I.
Fanning I.
Christmas I.
Howland I.
Equator
Borneo
Celebes
Java Sea
Ceram I.
Banda Sea
Flores Sea
Arafura Sea
Timor I.
Sumbawa I.
Sandal Wood I.
Bathurst I.
Admiralty Is.
Bismarck Arch.
New Mecklenburg I.
Papua or New Guinea
Torres Strait
Bougainville
Solomon Islands
Ysabel
Malayta
Guadalcanar
Louisiade Arch.
S. Cristoval
Rennell
Santa Cruz Is.
Espiritu Santo
Mallicollo
New Hebrides
Vanua Levu
Viti Levu
Fiji Is.
Gilbert Is.
Ellice Is.
Phœnix Is.
Tokelau Is.
Samoa or Navigators Is.
Upolu I. (Ger.)
Tutuila (U. S.)
Marquesas Islands
Society Is.
Tahiti (French)
Tuamotu or Low Archipelago
Tonga or Friendly Is.
Cook Is.
Austral Is.
Tubuai I.
Norfolk I.
Kermadec Is.
Lord Howe I.
Cape York
Somerset
Cooktown
Coral Sea
Great Barrier Reefs
Gulf of Carpentaria
Normanton
Cambridge G.
C. Levequ
Roebuck
N. W. Cape
Carnarvon
L. Amandava
Steeple Pt.
Dongarra
L. Barles
Eyre L.
L. Torrens
Bowen
Clermont
Rockhampton
Maryborough
Brisbane
Gr. Sandy I.
New Caledonia
Noumea
Loyalty Is.
Tropic of Capricorn
Australia
Western Australia
South Australia
Queensland
New South Wales
Victoria
Tasmania
Perth
Bunbury
Williamsburg
Albany
C. Leeuwin
Great Australian Bight
Spencer G.
Adelaide
Lake Eyre
Lake Torrens
Murray R.
Darling R.
Kangaroo I.
Kingston
Portland
Port Phillip Bay
Geelong
Melbourne
Sydney
Newcastle
Cape Howe
Furneaux Group
Launceston
Hobart
Bass Strait
Auckland I.
Campbell I.
Antipodes of Greenwich
Bounty I.
Antipodes I.
Stewart I.
Cape Providence
Invercargill
Dunedin
Mt. Cook
Christchurch
Hokitika
Nelson
Wellington
New Zealand
South Island
Chatham I. (Br.)
Napier
Mt. Egmont
New Plymouth
Auckland
North Island
East Cape
North Cape
Pacific Ocean
Asia
Australasia
Polynesia
Micronesia
Malaysia
Tropic of Capricorn
Equator
Tropic of Cancer
110° 120° 130° 140° 150° 160° 170° 180° 170° 160° 150° 140°
0° 10° 20° 30° 40° 50°

zone, and the southern half in the south temperate zone.

The waters of the South Pacific and Indian Oceans surround it, thus making it an island. It is the largest i land in the world. It is so large it is usually called a continent.

If you can think of an island as large as the United States, then you have an idea of its size. Australia has an area of 2,945,229 square miles. Leaving out Russia, it is large enough to contain two Europes with England, Scotland, and Ireland.

It measures 2,500 miles from east to west, which is a greater distance than from New York to Denver. Its greatest breadth from north to south is 1,950 miles, a greater distance than from New York to Chicago.

If we could sail around the coast, we would travel 8,000 miles.

Among the excellent harbors of Australia is Sidney, one of the finest harbors in the world.

Along the northeast coast, bordering the division called Queensland, is the Great Barrier Reef of Australia. This is an irregular coral wall 1,200 miles long. Its width varies. In some places it is not more than twelve miles from the mainland to the outer edge. In other places the ocean side is known to be at least 240 miles from the continent.

The Reef must not be thought of as a solid wall, but rather as a chain of many detached islands, so near together as to give the appearance of being united.

The water between the Reef and the mainland is called a lagoon. No matter how rough the waves are outside, inside the waters are calm. The lagoons

would form good harbors were it not for the fact that they are sometimes too shallow.

The Great Barrier Reef, and other coral reefs in the vicinity of the islands in the South Pacific Ocean, are very dangerous to ships. Very careful piloting is necessary when near them. This danger has been provided for by many beacons along the eastern coast. Sailors, who have been on every sea, declare this coast to have the finest light house system in the world.

Back from the coast, the country in some places is a dreary desert of sand. In others it is covered with dense forests which are called the "bush." These are not always in the interior. They often commence at the coast and extend inland for many miles.

On the plains of most countries, we see several large rivers. This is not the case in Australia. The Murray is the one river of any size. It is eleven hundred miles long.

The other rivers are very short and more like creeks. The rivers of Australia have a curious habit of disappearing in the sand, instead of flowing steadily on to the sea as they do in our country. That shows that the soil is very soft and loose in much of the interior.

On account of the lack of water the interior has never been explored. Attempts have been made, and many lives lost through starvation and thirst. Camels are the only animal used in traveling through these unexplored sections, and often they cannot endure the privations of the journey. Two daring men, Burke and Willis, whose monument we shall see in Melbourne, lost their lives in trying to make the vast interior known to the world.

The lake region of Australia is in the southern and southwestern districts. Though some of the lakes are quite large, the land about them is so low that they have little natural beauty. In many countries lakes are the source of rivers, but here they receive the waters from small rivers. They often resemble marshes rather than lakes. The lakes and numerous ponds are of great use to the farmers, in a climate where there is so little rain.

THE VOYAGE.

We are now prepared for our long journey. As we are to sail from San Francisco we gather there for the voyage.

With our things cared for in our state-rooms we eagerly go to the deck, for there is an added pleasure in the sights of familiar places.

Twice before in one year we have sailed out of the beautiful harbor of San Francisco en route to Hawaii and the Philippines. Those voyages, being in the late autumn and winter months, did not give us the beautiful view we now have.

The glory of a June month is all about us. We again pass through the Golden Gate, and with the charming picture in our minds, are out on the open sea.

The broad Pacific again ! We feel like old travelers on these waters. Think of three weeks on the great ocean, with almost 8,000 miles before we reach our first stopping place, the city of Melbourne in Australia.

Still, three weeks in good company are short, and while our good ship bears us onward, let us use some of our time in studying up our route.

We are on the greatest ocean in the world. Its waters are more than one-half of all the salt water on the globe. From north to south it reaches 9,000 miles, from east to west 10,000 miles.

We notice that our route takes us by way of Hawaii, Samoa, and New Zealand, all important islands of the Pacific.

On this great ocean our ship is fast speeding southwest. One week of pleasant weather and we are again touching at Honolulu in the Hawaiian Islands.

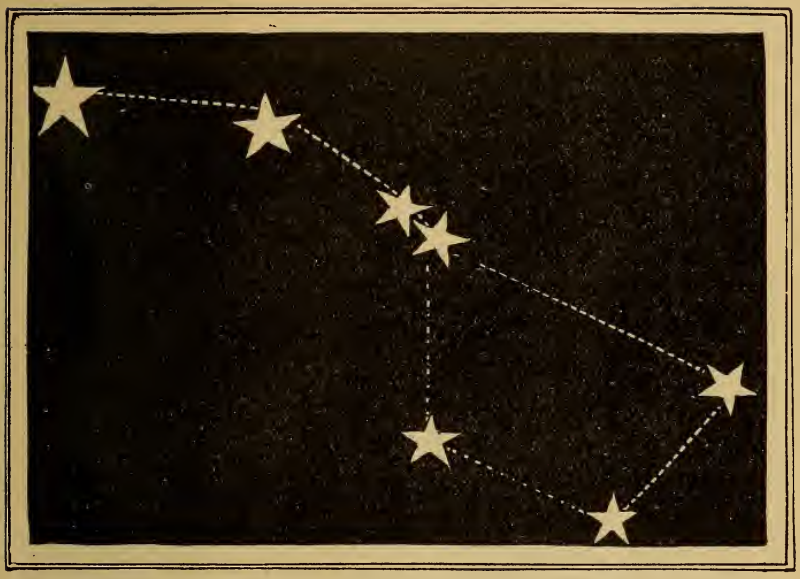
Leaving the mail, and getting supplies of coal and provisions, again our ship loosens her moorings for a still longer voyage. "Aloha!" "Aloha!" from the natives, sounds softly in our ears as the boat moves off.

To the south we steam. The air is becoming so warm that we know we are nearing the equator. We would like to know just when we cross the "line."

Shall we see any mark at that point? No. However, the imagination must always picture the line in the same position. This line, with all of the other imaginary circles and meridians, is used in making charts.

By means of them, exact positions and distances may be told on the great, broad ocean, the same as on land. The captain would be lost without his chart. He knows just where his good ship is all the time.

In all of our long sea voyages we know what it means to be good friends with our captain. The secrets of the deep are his. Let us ask him when we will cross the equator. He tells us to go to the stern of the boat soon after supper and feast our eyes on the "Great Bear" or "Dipper," for we will soon have to



THE DIPPER.

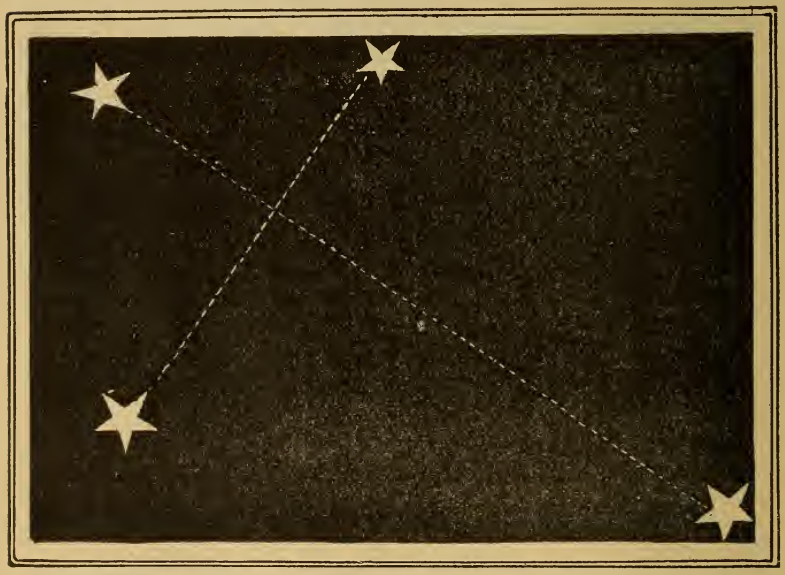
say good bye to it for some weeks. We are to stay at the stern until he sends us word. Then go immediately to the bow, look straight ahead and there we will see the beautiful "Southern Cross." While we are going from stern to stem, we will cross the equator, and while we are gazing at the beautiful constellation, our faithful old north star will fade from sight. We are on deck long before the stars begin to twinkle. Soon they come out. Some way the old "Dipper" never before looked so interesting.

Here comes the sailor boy with the message from the captain.

We almost tiptoe to the front of the boat. And there, straight ahead of us, just as the old captain

promised, twinkling brightly, but oh! so far away, is the beautiful constellation of the "Southern Cross."

It is a still, beautiful night. We gaze all about at the heavens, but everything is strange. Finally, we hurry back to take a look to the north. True to the captain's word, our "Great Dipper" is gone.



THE SOUTHERN CROSS.

Meeting the captain, we ask, "What will you have for a guide; now that you can't see the north star?" "Bless us!" he says. "Isn't a south star as good as a north one? The "Southern Cross" is good enough for my old eyes. You'll have to get used to things down here. Haven't you ever heard that down here things are all topsy turvy? Wait till we are farther on and get a good south wind. How will it feel? Something

like a Dakota blizzard. If we keep on sailing, we shall get, not to the "sunny south" but to the frozen south. We will then look eagerly for the warm *north* winds, and our thoughts would turn to the sunny *north*."

"You'll find all sorts of strange things in Australia, and you must get used to it. Some of the trees shed their bark instead of their leaves, which grow vertically instead of horizontally. When you notice this, see if you can think of any reason why. Many of the beautiful flowers which grow there have no odor, and some of the beautiful looking fruits are tasteless."

"Will the people, also, be strange?" we ask. "Oh! about as strange as you Yankees. You'll find them full of business. They like the ways of the United States, and follow many of them. You'll have a good time in Australia, never fear, and see a great many interesting things which you wouldn't see in any other country on the globe. Here we are sighting Samoa. I must be off to duty."

The cheery old captain has given us much to think of, and we open our maps to locate the Samoan Islands. We learn that there are wonderful caves on the islands, also that there are fine harbors where mariners often stop. The group is sometimes called "Navigators' Islands."

It is now but a short run of 400 miles before reaching the Fiji Islands. We all know what a fierce race of cannibals lived here, and how changed they have become since missionaries came to live among them and teach them to be Christians.

A few hundred miles more, and we cross the tropic

of Capricorn and are out of the torrid zone. The air becomes gradually cooler and our voyage on to New Zealand is much like that from San Francisco to Honolulu.

Touching at Aukland, New Zealand, the ship leaves a large number of passengers, some being tourists like ourselves, and others going to make permanent homes in the islands, perhaps engaging in some part of the sheep industry.

We will learn more about these great islands later. Now, we must proceed to our destination, the mainland of Australia.

Looking on our maps New Zealand seems very near to the continent, and we are surprised that we must sail over a thousand miles before our journey's end is reached.

For almost 6,000 miles the course of our ship has been to the south; but now, turning westward, in a few days we touch at Sydney, the last port before reaching Melbourne. We shall visit Sydney soon. At present our anticipations all point to the present capital city of the great continent, and after three weeks on the great Pacific, we gladly welcome the spires of Melbourne as they appear in the distance.

MELBOURNE, THE CAPITAL CITY.

After a three weeks' ocean voyage, the longest in all of our travels, we are nearing the great continent of the southern seas. Melbourne, the city of our destination, is in sight. Our ship turns its prow into the mouth of the beautiful river Yarra, and we are soon

landing at Sandridge, or Port Melbourne as it is called, which is about two miles from the city.

A railway pier runs alongside of the wharf, and in a twinkling we are transferred from ocean steamer to railroad coach, and in fifteen minutes are at the end of our journey.

We learn that the river Yarra is not deep enough for ships drawing more than sixteen feet of water to go farther than the Port. In spite of this disadvantage Melbourne has a great commerce, and has grown to be the largest city in the southern hemisphere. It surprises us to learn that the city contains several thousand people more than Boston or St. Louis, its population being almost 500,000.

In driving up Collins street we have more surprises. Handsome buildings greet us from each side. The street is broad and at least a mile in length. Melbourne is up to date in streets, buildings, everything in fact which we can see from our carriages. It has the same air as the large, bustling cities of the United States.

The city is beautifully located on two rolling hills, and is well laid out in regular, broad streets, with one hundred pretty parks, containing over 6,000 acres. What a thriving, progressive people this must be!

We pass a fine monument in the middle of the broad roadway. This is the Burke and Willis monument, erected to two brave men who tried to explore the interior of the country, and lost their lives in the effort.

At the hotel we are eager for information about this wonderful city and are again surprised to learn that when Chicago had already become a little city Mel-

bourne was just beginning its life as a tiny settlement. In 1837 this now flourishing city contained only thirteen buildings. Of these, five were log huts, the other eight being made of sod.

We hope we shall be so fortunate as to get away without encountering one of those Melbourne "bursters." Should one threaten us, we would certainly make for the nearest house, as we wouldn't want to risk being drowned in the gutters, as we are told people sometimes are.

A Melbourne "burster" means just what it says. The clouds burst and the water pours down in pailfuls. Everything and everybody exposed gets even more than a drenching, but after it is all over, the sun comes out brightly and everything has the fresh appearance of a delightful bath.

Melbourne is almost fifty years younger than Sydney, and yet contains several thousand more people. Mel-

bourne, as well as well as Sydney, has a very interesting early history, which when we heard it astonished us still more, that under such disadvantages at the beginning it could have had such unusual growth.

The disadvantages of the early settlement were many. There was serious quarreling from the very first, and it all happened this way.

In 1835, an Englishman named John Batman selected this spot as a fine place for a settlement. He secured about 600,000 acres in and about where Melbourne now stands, from the savages, paying them with "forty pairs of blankets, forty-two tomahawks, a few knives, scissors, looking glasses, and shirts."

Then he sailed for Tasmania, a large island south of Australia, which had already a few settlements. He went there to persuade a band of men to return with him and found a new town.

He did not get his plans completed before the next spring, when he returned to find the place he had selected for his town occupied by a company of six men, with some horses and pigs, some dogs and a cat. This looked very much as though they had come to stay. And so they had. Although John Batman quarreled with these men, he did not dare disturb them, for they were well armed and gave him to understand that they had as good a right there as he.

The quarrels were so bitter that the English governor of Australia, who lived at Sydney, came down to the settlement and took the rights away from the disputing men. He secured an auctioneer, and the place was divided into lots and sold. The auctiuneer took his pay in land, which at that time was not worth

$300. That same land is now worth over $1,000,000. That was a pretty good day's work for the auctioneer.

Quarrels between the two sets of men were kept up for years, but in spite of all, the town grew so fast that in four years there were more than four hundred

RED GUM TREE, AUSTRALIA

houses, and almost three thousand people. In five years the town had grown to have 6,000 people, and was incorporated as a city.

Doesn't it seem wonderful that a city could grow to such a size in so short a time? They had shops and

stores, and were so successful in raising sheep that very soon they were able to send a cargo of wool, containing several hundred bales, to London.

In about three years after Melbourne became a city, gold was discovered near there. We shall hear about the "gold rush" later, but of course this caused the city to grow very fast.

Then, too, Batman and his enemies died, and that brought harmony and more prosperity, for as long as the men of the two parties lived there was much quarreling between them, and that is bad for any town. However, the citizens of Melbourne have preserved Batman's memory by naming a large cemetery in his honor.

The city has prospered in every way, and now has 20,000 business buildings and over 1,000 hotels. It is one of the finest cities of the continent. It has good stores, and many of them. The large ones, like our department stores, are called "universal providers." Many of the stores are built in arcades so that shoppers may go from one to another without being exposed in summer to the intense heat of the sun.

Five hundred schools, including a fine university, and 300 churches, show that Melbourne wishes her people to be educated and good.

Although the city abounds in fine buildings, the pride of the people is the Public Library, which contains almost 350,000 volumes. It is not only open through the day, but until ten o'clock at night, that the laboring people may have an opportunity to read.

Every evening, hundreds of working men in their working clothes, visit the library and enjoy sitting in

the beautiful rooms, and reading the daily papers, magazines, and handsome books.

Another splendid plan which Melbourne has for the advancement of its people is the fine music furnished free twice a week in the great amusement room in the town hall. This building contains the finest pipe organ south of the equator. It is a massive instrument with over 4,000 pipes and 70 stops. An organist is hired by the city to give the people these free concerts, when they may hear the music of the great composers.

A Saturday half holiday if given in the city, and the laboring people have an opportunity to enjoy themselves in the picture galleres, fine museums, the library, the parks, the cricket grounds, or at the races.

Every one has heard of the Melbourne Cup, which is given at noted races of the famous Flemington race course, which is said to be the finest in the world.

It has a track one and one-half miles in length. Inside of this is a thick, velvetry lawn of over 300 acres. This is always free to spectators, although there is a fine grand stand, where those who wish to pay for a seat may go.

At the great race for the Melbourne Cup, hundreds of thousands of people come from the neighboring cities and towns, and all the country 'round. Handsome carriages and farmers' wagons mingle together in the great throng, and no one, no matter how poor, is kept from witnessing the sights.

At this time the most elegant costumes are seen on both men and women, who dress far better than the

people of our home country. The men in Australia make a great deal of money, and they like to spend it, and one of the things in which they spend it is handsome dressing.

Probably the most talked of thing in Melbourne today is the establishing here of the parliament for all of the states of Australia. For the present, Melbourne is to be the capital city of Australia. Each state has its capital, but there was no one place where the government was united until now.

The new parliament meets in the great Exposition building, for although Melbourne has its parliament building, it is occupied by the parliament of the state of Victória. If all of the people unite in wishing to have the capital permanently located in Melbourne, the city will be very fortunate. Melbourne can scarcely hope for this, as there has always been so much rivalry between this city and Sydney, that the people of the latter city will probably not consent. Doubtless a city in this section of the country will be chosen, for the greatest business of the continent lies between these two large ports.

GOVERNMENT.

Although Australia has a king, the government is very much like that of the United States.

Australia is only one of many countries which acknowledges Edward VII, of England, as king.

This country is divided into states. Can you imagine the United States divided into seven great states? That is just the number in Australia. Queensland, named for Queen Victoria, and New South

Wales, form the eastern states. Victoria, also named for the queen, and South Australia, are the southern ones. Western Australia, which is more than one-third of the whole continent, is, as its name suggests, in the west. North Australia, at the extreme north, and bordered on one side by the Gulf of Carpentaria, is in the hottest portion. Alexandra Land, which is in the central part, and contains a large desert and many single mountain peaks, may have been named for the beautiful wife of King Edward.

Every state has its sea coast and mountains, but the rivers of all are few and uninteresting.

Let us take a good look at our map and locate the divisions, not forgetting to notice the large islands, Tasmania and New Zealand.

TRAVEL.

Going from one city to another we go by rail, as we would in the United States, but the trains and roads are much different from ours.

Their roads are all called narrow gauge. They are only three feet six inches wide in some of the colonies, and travelers going outside the limits of one colony (we would say state) must transfer from one road to another.

The coaches are there spoken of as carriages. They open at the side, much like our city street cars. Between stations the door is closed and locked. One must know his station, or be carried by, for there are no conductors or brakemen. A guard takes the place of these. He collects the tickets when passengers leave the trains. If an accident should happen, there

is no means of communicating with the engineer or guard.

The freight cars are more like our heavy wagons. They are not inclosed as ours are, but freight is covered with tarpaulin to keep it from getting wet. Tarpaulin is canvas cloth covered with tar to make it waterproof. It looks very odd to us to see the loaded cars thus covered. Coal is hauled in what is termed hopper cars. A trough-like box running lengthwise holds about five tons. Each car is about the length of a four-wheeled caboose.

The engines are also small, but they seem to make pretty good time. There is no stopping for crossings, as the trains either cross the streets below or above.

In the train system, Australia patterns after her mother country, England. All suburban lines have double tracks, and the service is very good.

There are no railroads crossing the interior of the continent. The large cities are all connected by raii except Perth, the far western city. In time this will be connected with the nearest great city, Adelaide.

There are 15,000 miles of railroad in Australia, and more roads are being built. The states, or colonies, each own their own roads, and want to do everything for the comfort of the people.

SYDNEY, THE OLDEST CITY IN AUSTRALIA.

The first ship load of white people ever brought to Australia, landed in 1788 at the place where now stands the magnificent city of Sydney.

From the early history of the settlement of the great continent, we remember that this was a ship load

of prisoners from England. The ship was accompanied by a fleet of ships containing provisions and materials for the founding of a colony.

Captain Phillips cruised about for quite awhile, to find a suitable site for a town. Had he sailed around the entire coast he could not have found a finer situation for a city. He might have thought he was sailing into the mouth of a great river, for he sailed between many tall headlands going back from the ocean for four miles before landing his human cargo.

There he came to a beautiful circular bay, or cove as it is called, where the waves were as quiet as those of an inland lake. He then knew that he had reached the mainland, and that this water was an arm of the great Pacific Ocean.

The entrance through which Captain Phillips sailed is now very famous. The promontories are called the Sydney Heads. Finely equipped lighthouses dot the high banks, and beautiful country homes line the shores.

People who have sailed in all parts of the world, say that the harbor of Sydney, called Port Jackson, is the finest they have seen. They say it is much ahead of New York harbor, which is one of the world's greatest ports.

Large ships, drawing at least twenty-seven feet of water, never have to wait for the tide, but at any time can steam into the harbor and lie close to the shore. The harbor is so roomy that it has been said that the navies of all the governments of the earth could anchor here at one time. During one year there is a record that 2,600 ships entered Port Jackson. From this one

fact we may realize the importance of Sydney in the business world.

Let us now seek our hotel, and later in a visit to the wharves we will peep into some of the great ships we are passing and learn what they bring to and take from this busy city.

As we drive up George street, leading from the wharf, it is difficult to believe that only a few more than a hundred years ago, not a building of any kind stood where we now see the handsome post office, town hall, hundreds of fine, substantial stores, churches, school houses, and thousands of beautiful homes.

The fine street through which we are passing was named for one of the kings of England. As this city was founded and the street named soon after our Revolutionary War, can you not tell the name of the king?

Another prominent street is Pitt, named for the great Englishman who befriended our colonies during their fight for independence.

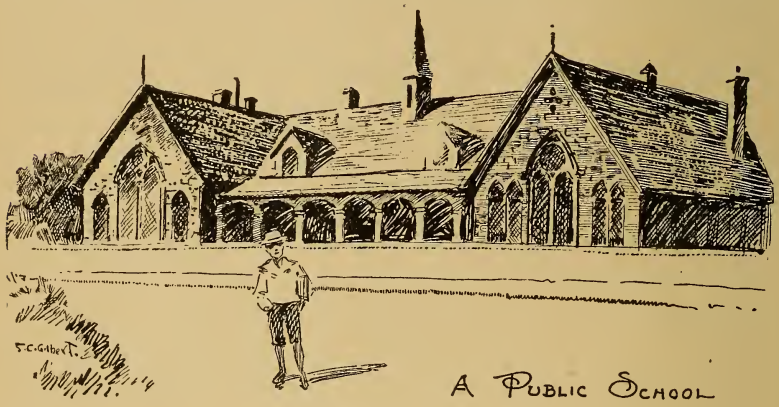
The streets are wide and finely laid out, crossing each other at right angles. The general appearance of everything is pleasing except that of the street railways.

Right through the principal streets run the cars, drawn by a smoke puffing locomotive, stopping every two blocks for passengers. As may be supposed, very many accidents happen, especially to strangers who are not on the look out for such an unusual circumstance as a locomotive in the principal streets of a city.

In our drive about Sydney, we are surprised at the large number of handsome school houses. We had no idea that thousands of miles south of the equator

we should find the children enjoying the same pleasure we do in our homes and schools.

The school buildings are fine, and neat curtains and potted plants adorn the windows. Let us follow this bright-eyed troop of children into the building. Here we find a very cordial, pleasant faced teacher, who looks as though school teaching was anything but drudgery. Attractive pictures hang on the wall, mod-



A PUBLIC SCHOOL

ern maps, globes and charts stand conveniently about, and the children have comfortable desks and seats. They are happy in their schools, and their parents have spent a great deal of money, most willingly, to make the schools beautiful and comfortable.

The churches and cathedrals are elegant structures, most of them being modern. Among them, and very much cherished by the residents, is old St. James' Church, with its ancient, high-backed, uncomfortable pews. Many tender memories are connected with this church, and the people love it as we do our old North Church of Boston.

No one in America, visiting New York or Chicago for the first time, would think of leaving the cities without visiting the beautiful Central or Lincoln parks. And so it is in Sydney.

This city has, not one, but many parks. One of them is Hyde Park Square, named after the beautiful Hyde Park of London, which we will visit next year.

GRASS TREE.

As in our own country statues of Columbus, the discoverer, are prominent in public parks, so here in Hyde Park we see a fine statue in memory of Captain Cook, who discovered Australia, or at least made it known to the world.

Opposite Hyde Park is Albert Park, named for Queen Victoria's husband. This contains a statue of the Prince Consort, as he was called.

Then there are parks and parks, some containing hundreds of acres. The Botanical Gardens in Domain Park contain every plant known in Australia, as well as specimens from every country in the world. What a bower of beauty and perfume! We feel like staying here forever!

In this park are the three famous Norfolk pines that were planted here seventy years ago. One of them is ninety-five feet tall, and quite close to the ground is fifteen feet in circumference. One could easily play "hide-and seek" behind this tree. In the gardens, also, is a wonderful tree called the sea-oak. When all is still, it gives forth a sound like the murmur of a sea-shell.

MUSK-TREE.

Do you like musk perfume? We find plenty of it in the vicinity of a musk-tree growing in the gardens. The odor reaches for many yards and makes the air heavy with perfume.

We can scarcely bear to leave these gardens of loveliness, but our time is limited, and we must see all that we can of a country we may not again visit.

We board the street-cars for a ride into the suburbs along the delightful beach. For miles we ride, with the sail-dotted bay often in full view. The suburbs are more beautiful than the city, and we learn that more people live here than in the city proper.

About fifteen miles from Sydney we visit the famous orange groves of Paramatta. Ripe oranges are gathered here the year round, though they have the most delicious flavor in the summer month of December.

Back to the city we go for the promised visit to the docks and wharves of the Cove.

One of the wharves, Circular Quay (pronounced key, and meaning wharf) is thirteen hundred feet in length. That seems pretty long, but when we see a great ocean steamer almost 800 feet long by its side, we see that it is none too long for the business transacted here. This wharf is built on the very spot where Captain Phillips landed the first white people to found a settlement in the newly discovered continent. Several of the wharves cover at least three acres each. The government is constantly obliged to enlarge the accommodations for ships. This shows the rapid growth of the commerce of the city.

Here lie some great ships being loaded for foreign ports, many for London, some for India, some for San Francisco. A peep into them will tell us some of the secrets of this busy port.

This large ship is being loaded with hundreds and hundreds of bales of wool. There are great piles of sheep, rabbit, kangaroo and cattle pelts. From these will be made gloves, shoes, cloaks, caps and many other articles of clothing. The rabbit skins, of which 17,000,000 are shipped every year to London, are made into electric seal for ladies wraps.

In one end of the ship are boxes and boxes of canned goods, marked "Kangaroo Tail Soup."

Let us visit the refrigerators. This ship has touched at a port in New Zealand and there taken on board thousands of pounds of frozen carcasses of sheep and rabbits. Some idea of the amount may be had from the fact that 11,000,000 pounds of frozen rabbit meat are annually shipped from these islands, and that they

boast twenty-one great meat-freezing establishments.

In the safe of the ship we might see case after case of beautiful pearls and handsome opals, which, through London dealers are sent to all of the large cities of the world. Gold coins fresh from the mint are safely stowed away for the great Bank of England.

The sending of goods to foreign markets is called *exporting*, but this is not all of the business at these immense wharves. Many ships are unloading great cargoes of goods from London, India and the United States. The bringing of goods into a country is called *importing*. The imports landed here are shipped to all of the great cities of the continent.

The wool which grew on the backs of the sheep has gone through the great English factories at Manchester, and has been changed into clothing for the many people who own and tend the sheep. Cotton and linen cloth, manufactured iron goods, pianos and hundreds of useful things come from England. Java sends her coffee, China her boxes of tea, and the United States, through our port of San Francisco, sends shipload after shipload of machinery. Everyone in Australia and New Zealand favors American machinery. They want the best of everything, and all of the modern improvements.

Now, with all this loading and unloading of all kinds of goods, too many to name them, big passenger steamers coming in with passengers from all over the world, and sailing away with a like number, is it any wonder that Sydney has the name of being one of the greatest, busiest ports in the world?

OTHER CITIES.

NEWCASTLE.

From Sydney we must run up to Newcastle. Have you ever heard any one say that doing a certain thing would be like "carrying coals to Newcastle?" That means that whatever was suggested would be very foolish, just as foolish as "carrying coals to Newcastle," when that city is in the centre of the coal district of Australia. It is named after Newcastle in England, which is situated as this one is, in the centre of the mining district.

All about the city are immense mines which employ 10,000 people. After going down one of the shafts into the dark mine, we pity the people who have to earn their living in such a place, and it is dreadful to think of the boys who begin so young to work at such a gloomy business away from daylight and fresh air.

BRISBANE.

Five hundred miles north of Sydney is the capital and only large city in Queensland. This is Brisbane.

The business buildings are very neat and substantial and here, as everywhere in the capital cities, there is a fine government building.

The houses are mostly of one story, with broad, vine-covered verandas.

Brisbane is all up and down hill. It is said to be built on 700 hills, and one of our party who is not very fond of hill climbing insists that it must be 7,000.

Brisbane has an immense market because of so many products from the whole of Queensland, which

extends far to the north. Much of it being in the torrid zone, many tropical fruits grow here. The pine-apples are delicious, and the bananas, ripe from the trees, have a flavor we never before tasted.

Wool in great quantities, timber from vast forests, gold and coal are some of the products that pass through this market.

ADELAIDE.

The largest city in South Australia is Adelaide, named for the wife of King William IV., the principal street of the town being named for the king himself. A handsomer street than this would be difficult to find in a city of the same age.

The public buildings of the city, which are situated on this street are very fine in architecture. We

notice so many churches that we think the people of Adelaide must be very good. We learn that Adelaide is called the "City of Churches."

This city has a large wheat market, and a visit to the farms near by would show us the familiar sight of American plows, reapers and mowers at work in the great wheat fields. Adelaide, the same as all other Australian cities, exports a large crop of wool.

Another surprise we have here is the quantity of delicious fruit. Fine grapes, oranges, apricots and peaches grow easily and with little care. We have feasted so much on this rare treat that we shall probably think of Adelaide as the "city of fruits."

PERTH.

If we had time to visit the length and breadth of Australia, in the extreme west, more than 1,000 miles from Adelaide, we would find the city of Perth. It is quite a city, having a population of over 20,000 people.

It seems lonely to think of it so far from the other large cities of the continent, but Western Australia must have a market for her products, and in a few years we will see other large cities springing up along the coast. At present there are a number of towns in the vicinity of Perth, but none approaching its size.

A very attractive feature of the city is the profusion of handsome lilacs which fairly border the streets. The principal street, which is two miles long, is lined with these beautiful, flowering trees.

The long stretch of northern coast has no towns. The climate is too hot for other than the aborigines, who number less with every year.

THE ABORIGINES.

The people of Australia, so far as we have seen them, look, act and dress much as do the people of the States. We are somewhat surprised and disappointed at this. We had expected to see and study a new race.

"Where are the natives?" we ask. The guide tells us that in this country the white people who are born in Australia are called the natives. The first or earliest inhabitants are called aborigines.

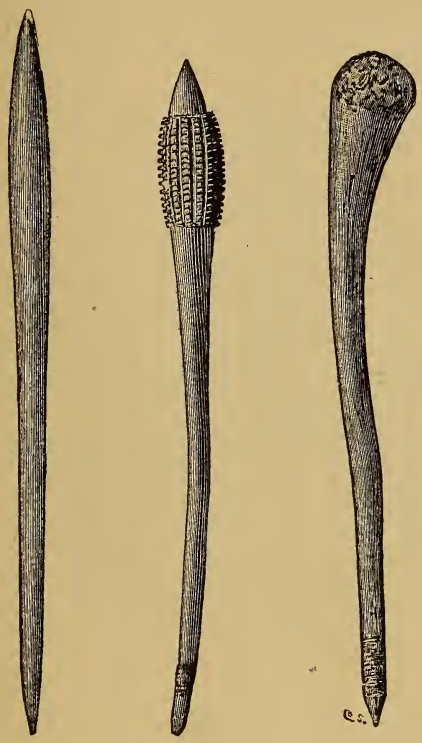
These people are dying out very fast and there are not now more than 20,000 in the entire country. They are scattered very thinly over the continent and the islands, but one seldom sees them in or near the cities.

In New Zealand we can find a number of them, in Queensland a few, but in Tasmania none at all.

To Queensland of the mainland then we go. Here we find a number of them employed as house servants, and they are quite willing to tell us of their earlier lives

and of their less civilized relatives in other parts of Australia.

The aborigines are spoken of as a black race, but the color of their complexion is chocolate.

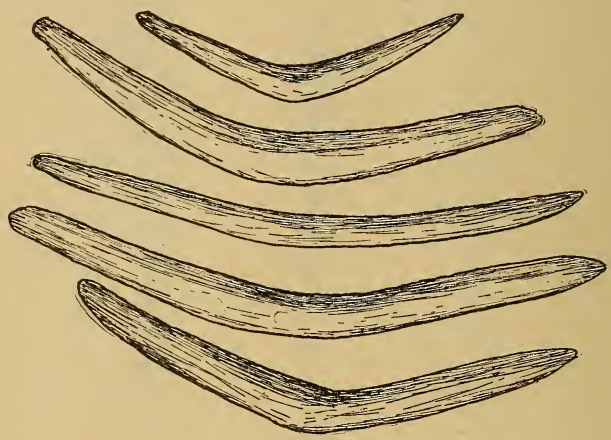


AUSTRALIAN CLUBS.

They tell us that they were fierce, and, like other savages, delighted in war. It was their pastime. They painted themselves with hideous streaks of red and with their native weapons went to battle.

Their weapons were spears and waddy clubs. They are very skillful in throwing a spear and seldom miss aim at a distance of thirty or forty yards.

Here is a group of the black men engaged in some sport. They are throwing curved sticks, and the queerest thing is that when they throw the sticks away, they come whizzing back and fall at their very feet. These sticks are called boomerangs, and only the aborigines know how to throw them so skillfully.



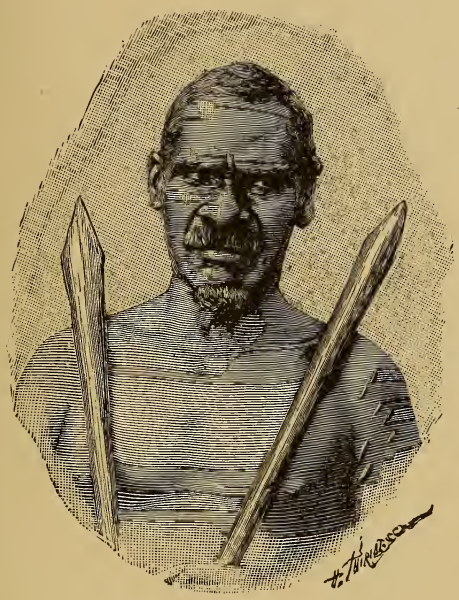
AUSTRALIAN BOOMERANGS.

We examine one of the sticks and find it made of very hard wood. The curve is not made by carving, but is cut from a stick which has the natural bend. The ends of the boomerang are twisted in opposite directions, which helps the stick in its peculiar course. But the wonderful part of the boomerang is the throwing of it. These Australian savages are practiced in throwing anything they can get into their hands. In going through the woods, any small animal sighted is at once brought down by a stick or a stone.

In talking with the black servants in the towns they told us that some of them were cannibals. Do

you know what a cannibal is? It is a human being that eats human flesh. How dreadful! Because of this habit it was very difficult to civilize them. They relished human flesh, and did not like to give it up.

They have a natural desire to kill, but they do not torture their victims as the Indians of America did.



CANNIBAL, AUSTRALIA.

They love to kill instantly. If a white man has a black servant, it is very unsafe, when in his company, to walk in front of him. He may like his master. At the same time if he has the opportunity to kill, he can scarcely resist the temptation to do it.

The black people never have any regular time for eating, but eat whenever they are hungry. A Nor-

wegian writer, who traveled extensively through the country, accompanied by black servants, tells the amusing story of how they expressed to him their desire for food. They would beat their stomachs impatiently and cry out "*Ammeri*! *Ammeri*!" which meant hungry. They would do this whenever they saw him eating, whether they were hungry or not. He had to threaten them with a revolver in order to eat his meals in peace.

The native savages have a curious way of always gazing into the trees as they go through the woods. For what do you suppose they are looking? Game? No, they are looking for honey. They know about where to find it, and when they see a sign of it in the hollow of two branches, up the tree they go. The honey, comb and all, is soon devoured. The bees swarm all about them, but that does not disturb them for although they bite, they never sting. If they find more than they can eat, they may take some home to their families, though the women go out each day to hunt and prepare the food.

In speaking of their food when they lived in the woods one of the blacks, a cook, told us they were particularly fond of beetles, which they find on trunks of fallen and decayed trees. They roast them before eating. He said they were really delicious and tasted much like a finely flavored omelet.

When they were so fortunate as to kill a kangaroo, they had meat for some days. Fish also formed a part of their diet, and in the north where tropical fruits grow, it is a common food for those who still live the wild life.

GATHERING WILD HONEY.

A poor old creature working about the place where we are stopping told us that she was so cruelly treated by her husband that she had run away, as many other women of her tribe had done.

She said that if she were ever caught by her husband he would kill her. She told us that the wives

AUSTRALIAN BOOMERANG THROWERS.

were the slaves of their husbands, who always traded for them or stole them, and then always abused them.

These blacks who have left their tribes to work for the white men are hated by their own people. If they should ever return to them they would be killed instantly.

A black man is always buried in the spot where he dies. The place is then deserted. They have a curious belief that a white man always springs up in that place.

They all believe in an evil spirit, and some of the tribes worship idols. Those who live among the whites are civilized, and often become Christians.

CHILD LIFE.

See this stupid looking little black boy. He is the son of a servant employed in the home in which we are staying. He must be at least eight years of age, has lived all his life among civilized people, and yet he cannot count six.

Take out a dime, or silver sixpence and a copper, and give him his choice. He will be quite as apt to choose the copper as the piece of silver. You may try to make him understand that the silver is worth more than the copper, but you will not succeed, not even if you spend hours explaining the matter to him. He has not enough intelligence to reason the matter out.

He does not lead a very pleasant life. His mother is lazy, and spends most of her earnings for drink. He is left much to himself, is ragged and dirty, and often hungry.

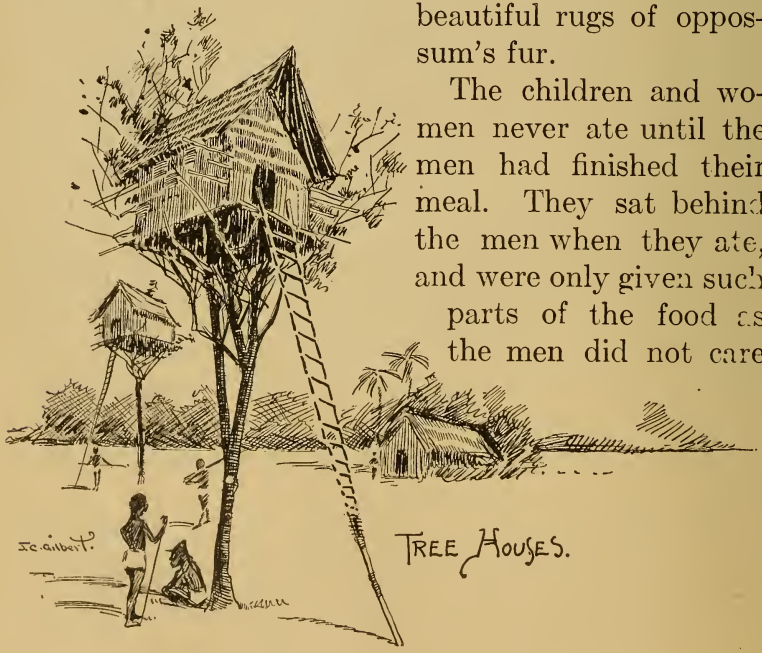
If he were in the country far away from the whites, his life would be quite different, but perhaps not much pleasanter.

The children of the uncivilized blacks have never had very happy lives. Many of the babies were formerly killed by their mothers because they were too much in the way. What heartless mothers, you say.

But remember what wretched lives these poor mothers led. They were the beasts of burden. When the tribes were on the march they were compelled to carry everything. The food supply of kangaroo flesh, and the household goods were all piled on their over-burdened backs. In addition to this a mother must carry her baby. If she dropped her load she was beaten or killed. So in order to save her own life she deserted her child or killed it. The savage father was not apt to miss it.

The children who were allowed to live were taught to hunt and fish, to build bark huts and to prepare food for their meals. They wore no clothes, so they did not learn to sew, but they were taught to make beautiful rugs of opposum's fur.

The children and women never ate until the men had finished their meal. They sat behind the men when they ate, and were only given such parts of the food as the men did not care



TREE HOUSES.

for. This usually consisted of half cooked kangaroo, oppossum meat or snake.

Much was made of the games the children and young people played. They had sham battles and wars as soon as they were old enough to walk. These fights were not regarded wholly as games, they were lessons in war. They were their schools, and their only schools.

The child who was the bravest and most skillful fighter was praised by the whole tribe, and looked up to and obeyed by all the other boys and girls. Each child was obliged to make his own weapons, which consisted of spears, clubs and shields. Their shields were made of strips of bark. Their other weapons were made of hard woods. Flints and stones were used for knives and chisels. Sharp pointed sticks were used for spears.

When a boy was old enough to take his place among the men of his tribe his preparations for manhood were attended by customs somewhat like those of the North American Indians.

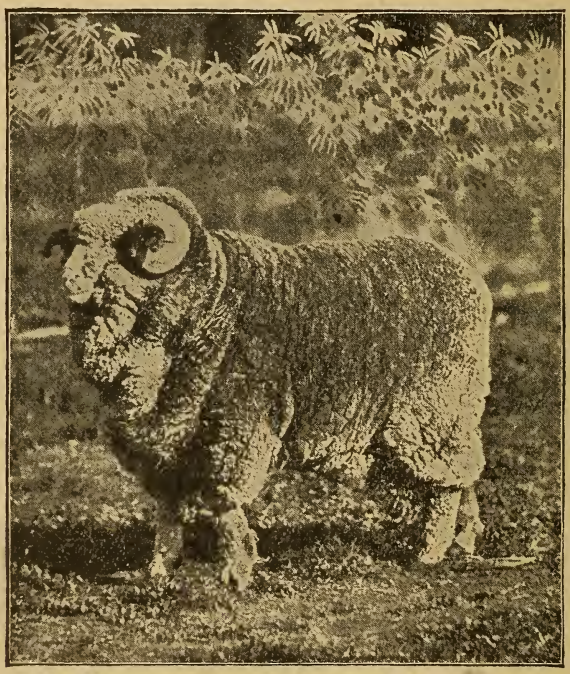
He left his tribe and lived alone in the forest for a month or more. He was obliged to secure his own food by hunting or else fast. Upon his return he gave an exhibition to the warriors of his skill in fighting, in games, in dancing and singing. If his efforts were satisfactory to the braves of the tribe he was declared a man. After this he might wear a feather headdress and go to war with the other men.

He found a wife soon after this, or several of them, if he liked, and beat them when he wished, just as his father beat his mother.

SHEEP RAISING.

We have heard so much of the sheep industry of Australia, let us take a drive to one of the big sheep ranches and learn all we can about it.

The farm we are now passing belongs to one of the great ranch owners, yet we drive for miles before we



PRIZE SHEEP OF AUSTRALIA. VALUE, $4,000.

come to any of the buildings, or find any of the men connected with it.

One could ride for a whole day and yet not cover the ground of some of the Australian farms, or ranches as they are called. They contain thousands and

thousands of acres, and make our American farms seem like garden plots. Many of the farms contain 200,000 or more acres.

At last we come to a building which is the headquarters of the overseer. The owner lives in town, but visits his ranch often to see that everything is well cared for.

The overseer tells us that there are over 1,000,000,000 sheep in Australia, and that one million are owned by his employer, some of the finest being worth $5,000 each.

On this ranch hundreds of thousands of sheep have been raised in a single year. Great ranches which contain such numbers cannot be managed as American farms are. The owner must have a great many men on his place. Each one is assigned a certain number of sheep, a thousand or more. They are located so far apart that when the sheep are let out to pasture there is no danger of the flocks getting mixed.

On this ranch, as on many others, it is so arranged that two flocks are quartered at night in the same vicinity, but in separate enclosures. This is so the shepherds may be closer together for protection. Each sleeps in a shed near the sheep, always prepared for a possible night attack from wild dogs or bushmen.

In the early morning the sheep are let out, and they wander off, grazing as they go. The shepherd never loses sight of them, and his dogs keep them from straying. When noon comes they are headed homeward, grazing as they go.

As it is nearing evening the sheep are being driven

into the inclosures. Let us visit the shepherd in his hut and learn something of his lonely life.

He tells us that week in and week out he sees no one but his companion shepherd at night. The loneliness is so great that often he feels as though he would become insane. He tells us that ranch owners are now employing families, if possible to secure them. This, we think, is a wise plan, for the father may often send his boys to care for the stock while he stays about the home, makes a garden, and does many things to give the place a thrifty, home-like appearance.

In the evening he has his family about him, and with someone to talk with, life is not so dreary. The children play about the rude building, made cosy and tidy by the kind mother. They live a free, out-of-door life, but have no chance for an education while their father remains a shepherd.

Most of the families work hard, and are very economical. As soon as they have saved a little and can afford to do so, the father engages in some other work, where he and his family may have the society of others and the children may attend school.

The shearing is the most interesting of anything we see on the ranch. Nearly all of the ranches have a good sized building equipped for this purpose. First the sheep are washed and let out in runs to dry. Then they are driven into another enclosure from which the shearers take them. The shearer drags a sheep from the pen, holds it with his knees, and commences his work, beginning with the head. He leaves the back until the last, and when he is through, the fleece falls off in one piece.

Have you ever seen a pair of sheep shears? What clumsy things they seem, yet the shearers handle them with ease. They work fast and sometimes are very careless and cut the sheep. A bucket of tar is always ready, and the wound is at once covered to keep the flies from it.

When a sheep has lost his woolly coat he is a queer looking object. We almost pity him, but we must think how useful his coat is to clothe people, and that

A LOAD OF WOOL.

he really does not need it to keep himself warm. In such a climate he probably feels happier with the heavy coat off.

The shearers are reckless fellows. During the season they travel from ranch to ranch in gangs. They ride fine horses and are very particular about their

food. They insist on having the best, and often have a cook traveling with them to provide them with all of the luxuries of the season.

On this ranch we are treated to a typical Australian dinner of mutton and tea. Tea is the universal drink among men as well as women. The men see so much of the sheep that we could not wonder if they objected to eating mutton.

The shearers are usually paid so much for a score, and some of the most skillful can shear six score in a day, but the average number is four score. As they receive about five shillings for a score, they earn a good sum in one day. They are paid in English money, as that is the currency of the country, and a shilling of their money is almost twice a shilling of ours. Now if a rapid shearer can cut the fleece from six score sheep in a day can you tell how much his day's work will bring him?

The shearers generally have a terrible habit, that of gambling. After the work of the day is over they will play far into the night. At the end of a season perhaps a few of the most skillful players will have the most of the money earned by the entire gang.

After the wool is taken from the sheep it is packed into bales, and pressed by machinery until a surprising amount is put into a small space. It is then carted to the nearest town and sent by rail to the coast to be shipped to foreign countries. The overseer tells us that Australia ships, every year, over 600,000,000 pounds of wool, which has the reputation of being the best in the world.

Most of it goes to the great manufacturing cities of

England, where it is spun and woven into cloth, and then sold all over the world. Wouldn't it be odd if some of us are now wearing clothing that actually grew on the backs of the sheep of Australia? It is quite possible that this is true. Perhaps the blankets which we sleep under at home once covered the backs of the very sheep grazing quietly in these green pastures.

If the girls have on merino dresses, then we may be sure some fine old sheep was robbed of his coat to dress them, for Australia is the producer of thousands of merino sheep, which grow the finest wool for the manufacture of ladies' clothing.

Although sheep raising is the great pastural industry of the country many cattle are also raised. Dairies are now very plentiful and a visit to a dairy farm will prove to us that Australia has as fine cheese and butter as may be found in the richest prairies of the United States or Europe. From the cities of the south coast these dairy products are shipped to Manilla, and the day is not far away when they will find a market for them in the cities of southern and eastern Asia.

THE GOLD FEVER.

Did you ever have a fever, and do you remember how flushed your face was and how fast the blood rushed through your veins?

Perhaps you can remember how wild you were, and how, for part of the time you were "out of your head" when the fever was highest.

When people get so wild about gold, and almost

lose their senses, that is why it is said they have the "gold fever." The blood rushes fast through their veins as they think of digging up a fortune in a few days, or perhaps weeks.

They have had the "gold fever" in Australia. Men and women, wild with excitement, from all parts of the world, rushed to Australia when they heard of the great nuggets of gold being actually picked off the surface of the ground.

About seventy-five miles north of Melbourne was the scene of the first gold excitement on the continent. Let us visit that place, the city of Ballarat, which about fifty years ago was a village of tents peopled by men and women eager to make their fortunes. And some did make them even in one day. Great nuggets worth $20,000 and $50,000 apiece were discovered. The largest one ever found in Australia weighed 189 pounds, and was called the "Welcome Stranger." This was worth $50,000. Sometimes a claim less than ten feet square would yield that much gold. Is it any wonder that people became wild? Those who were poor one day, were rich the next.

History gives Edward Hargraves the credit of discovering it in 1851.

He had been in California, and when he came to Australia, he noticed the resemblance of the soil to that in California. That which he found was gold dust in the earth, but it set everybody to searching, and we have seen the rich results.

The people were so wild that a curious story is told of the discovery of gold at another spot where a little town was built. The family who owned the first brick

house in the place tore it down, and crushed every brick to search for the dust. The story says that they were rewarded by finding three ounces to the ton.

People dug in their back yards, and in many cases found the precious dust. Every yard became a mine for the time being.

The gold rush did more good than bringing to light the yellow metal. It attracted the attention of England. England was letting the colonies of Australia get on the best they could until the great discovery came, which promised to make every one rich.

You remember that England was very anxious to take shiploads of convicts to the new continent when it was a wilderness. Now, she was more anxious to keep them away. She came forward, interested herself in the country and its people, and the result was good for the new colonies.

She rewarded Edward Hargraves, and sent him hunting in other sections for more gold, which he found. Besides the gold found at Ballarat in Victoria, great quantities have been found in New South Wales, South Australia, West Australia and Queensland. The richest mine in the world is in Queensland.

The gold found in Australia is alluvial, or washed from earth, and also quartz which is dug from rock.

The amount of gold already taken from the earth reaches 'way into billions of dollars worth. And think of the land that has not yet been even scratched on top! We cannot estimate the riches yet hidden in Australian soil.

THE MELBOURNE MINT.

The quartz and dust does not have to be taken to a foreign land to be made into a useful form.

The capital city, Melbourne, has a large mint where $27,000 is coined and stamped every hour. More than £82,000,000 have already been coined in this mint. Do you know how much an English pound is worth in our money? By thinking for a few minutes, we find that this mint has turned out what would equal $400,000,000 of our gold dollars.

Upon many of the pieces we see the image of England's king, who is also Australia's king.

But the greatest sight at the mint, and the one we shall never forget, is the beautiful molten gold, being poured from the buckets into the molds.

Think of gold bubbling like boiling water! And it doesn't look like gold. It is green on the top and looks like bucketfuls of boiling emeralds. As it is poured off it shows the bright yellow, and is the most tempting sight to be imagined.

As at all mints, they are so strict we can carry away no souvenir except the remembrance of a delightful visit.

TREES AND PLANTS OF AUSTRALIA.

Sitting under the shade of a tree in Australia is about the same as sitting under the trees in Northern United States in the spring, when the sun shimmers and glints through the almost bare branches. This is true even under the foliage covered trees of Australia. We examine the foliage to see the reason of this peculiar circumstance. We find the leaves

growing in a vertical position instead of horizontal as they do in our country. Why is this? This is a much warmer climate than ours. Do you suppose

that the leaves, turning their edges to the sun get less heat and so are better able to endure the hot sun? Perhaps, also, the sun cannot drink as much

moisture from the edges of the leaves as from the flat surface. The trees have to make the most of all the water they can get, unless they are near the coast or some lake where they can get a fresh drink from the moist breezes.

Some of the trees have no leaves at all, just the bare branches, yet they are as full of life as any maple tree growing on our own lawn.

Such is the bottle tree. It is a curious sight. The great trunks of these trees look like wide jugs or vases, and the spreading branches look more like the arms of an octopus than they do those of a tree.

We find the trees shedding their bark instead of their leaves. Their bare trunks are as smooth as though they had been planed by a carpenter. This is a very peculiar sight. The naked trunks stand about like so many ghosts of their former selves.

The eucalyptus is a world-famed tree, known for the healing oil which is produced from it. The oil, much used in fevers, also in throat diseases, is very purifying. It is said that people living in the vicinity of eucalyptus trees are seldom sick, and almost never have a fever.

This noble tree is also very valuable to man because it can resist the gnawing of insects, and as salt water has little effect upon it, substantial piers are built from the timbers cut from the tall trunks. The tree is a giant, growing sometimes to the height of 400 feet, their smooth, white trunks measuring six feet in diameter 200 feet from the ground. This specie of tree is also known as the gum tree.

A very peculiar one is the grass tree. The foliage

consists of a great bunch of long grass depending seemingly from one spot about two-thirds of the distance from the ground to the top of the tree. These trees give almost no shade, and look very grotesque.

Another rare tree is the Australian spruce. It is a fine specie of the evergreen. The aborigines collect the immense cones and use the seeds as food. These trees are now quite scarce, and owing to their usefulness to the blacks the government protects them from being cut down.

There are many cocoanut and date palm trees growing here, but, for some unknown reason the fruit lacks a good flavor. This seems strange, as the oranges and pineapples are very delicious.

Ferns grow very abundantly, many reaching the height of trees. And wouldn't it be a curious sight to see lilies growing as high as a house? Yet that is one of the curious things which we see in the plant life of Australia.

As the country becomes more thickly settled Australia will lose much of her forest. Clearings must be made for new settlements, and the trees must fall as civilization goes onward.

ANIMALS OF AUSTRALIA.

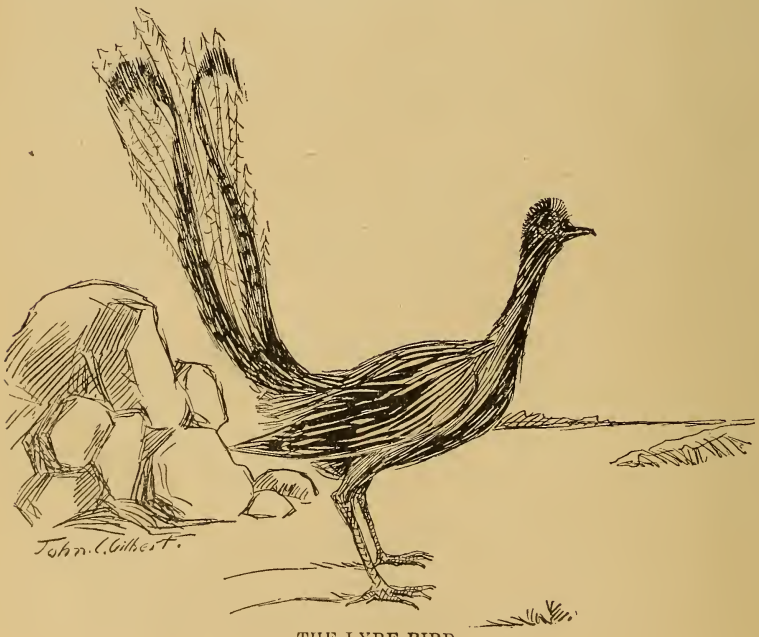
"Ha! ha! ha! ha!" we hear as we walk underneath the trees. No one is laughing at us, however. It is only that curious bird, the laughing jackass, found in Australian woods.

He does not deserve his name for he seems to be a very wise bird. He is certainly a brave one, for he is not afraid of the poisonous snakes and lizards. He

boldly attacks them, and as he kills great numbers, he is very useful to the outlying settlements.

This bird has no beauty to make him attractive. He seems to be all head and bill, besides having immense feet.

But there are birds of beautiful plumage in the woods of Australia. The lyre bird is one of them. He is so called on account of the tail feathers growing in the shape of a lyre. He



THE LYRE BIRD.

spreads his tail and struts about as though conscious of his handsome appearance.

He seems to get a great deal of fun out of life, and how do you suppose he does it? By fooling the men at work in the forests. He will so perfectly imitate the sounds of sawing and splitting wood as to make them drop their tools and listen to locate the neighboring party at work.

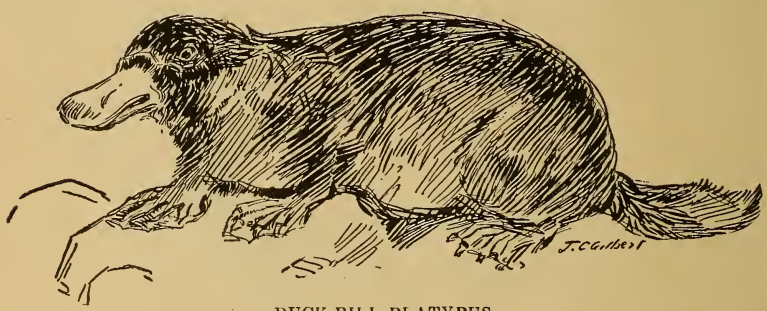
He will also call other birds and animals about him, so closely does he imitate their cry. The aborigines call him the "bullard, bullard," because his own song sounds like these words repeated.

There are many, many birds in Australia—so many we haven't time to tell of all. The largest is the emu,

THE EMU,

hunted for its skin. It is a great bird, like the ostrich, and can run as fast as a horse. The blacks hunt it by means of strategy. Dressing themselves in a suit feathers, with one arm held in the air to imitate the neck and head of the bird, they move slowly toward the victim. When they are near enough, the spear, which is carried by one foot, is skillfully thrown, and the prize is theirs.

Australia has her share of poisonous snakes, among the most dangerous being the tiger snake and death adder. Lizards, scorpions and poisonous spiders cause the settlers to be watchful, as their bites are often deadly.



DUCK-BILL PLATYPUS.

The platypus is one of the queerest animals peculiar to this country. It is covered with fur, but has webbed feet and a very wide bill like that of a duck. It also lays eggs like a fowl.

There is also a fierce wild cat something like a bear. It is very appropriately called the "Tasmanian Devil." It is black, with here and there a white spot. The tiger wolf is another ferocious beast. Both being poultry thieves, they are a terror to the farmers.

The most peculiar animals of Australia, and those most characteristic of the country, are the marsupials, or pouch bearing animals. Among them are the native bear, opossum, and the kangaroo. All carry their young in a pouch, until old enough to go about for themselves. The most interesting of all is the kangaroo.

THE KANGAROO.

Of all the animals in Australia the one we are most anxious to see is the kangaroo. We will not have to go far, for he, too, enjoys the rich grass which grows on the pasture lands the farmer has selected for his sheep. Here on the great ranches we may get a glimpse of him, if we are cautious enough in approaching. He has the keenest scent, especially for a human being.

We make our way to the pasture lands, and finding

an old shepherd with his flock, he suggests that we hide with him in a clump of bushes overlooking the sheep, which are quietly grazing. From here we are likely to see the kargaroo.

Soon we see the strange animals coming from the woods at one side. They stand up, look all around, and seeing no one they commence their meal of grass.

We have a good opportunity to observe them. Some of them are as large as men. When erect they are curious looking creatures. They sit on their hind legs, which are very large and strong. The hind feet have three toes, the middle one ending in an ugly claw.

As they sit, they are supported by an enormous tail. The shepherd tells us that this makes a delicious soup, and that, already, it is shipped out of the country in quite large quantities.

The front legs are very short. The paws have five fingers ending in strong, curved claws. The front paws are used in picking up the baby kangaroos to put into the pouch.

All mother kangaroos have a pouch underneath their bodies, in which they carry their little ones until old enough to look after themselves. They also hide in the pouch if there is danger, by jumping in of their own accord.

The sharp claws of their fore feet are useful to them in defending themselves when attacked by hunters or dogs. A blow from them often kills a dog instantly. The dogs fear them and try to keep at a safe distance.

As we peep out we see a family of little ones run-

ning about, eagerly eating the tender grass. A slight noise from the bushes and they scamper to their mother, ready to be stowed away for safety.

At the same time a large kangaroo sits up, pricks up his ears and listens. He is the leader of the herd, and is called the "old man." He is fierce, and if attacked will fight to the death.

Kangaroos will always run if pursued, making for a place where they can defend themselves. If a pond or lake is near by, be sure they are running for that. They have a curious way of defending themselves in the water.

When safely in, they turn about ready for the attack. If their pursuer, man or dog, gets near enough, they quickly seize him and hold him under the water until drowned.

A story is told of a man who, to tease his dogs, imitated the cry of a kangaroo. Suddenly, out from the woods leaped an "old man," seized the man who gave the cry, and made off with him in great bounds toward a neighboring pond. The man called loudly for his dogs, and though they came quickly, before the kangaroo released his hold, the man was nearly drowned. Probably he never again tried to fool his dogs.

If an "old man" is pursued, and there is no water near by, and he cannot outrun his pursuers, he runs to a tree and sits down with his back to the trunk. In this position he is a dangerous animal. He is ready to fight and he waits calmly for his enemy to attack him. In this position there is but one way to capture him, and that is by shooting. He is so quick in his

movements and so fierce, it would be almost sure death for the hunter or dogs to approach him.

Kangaroos are the plague of the farmers of Australia. They come from the woods in great herds and graze on the pasture lands. Sometimes the meadow will be black with them, and in a short time they will strip the land of all the grass upon which the farmer depends to feed his sheep. Then all the farmers for many miles band together to rid themselves of this pest.

They arrange what is called "a drive." First, they build a high fence, at least seven feet, so that the kangaroos cannot leap over it. The fence is built in the shape of an open V.

The farmers, on horseback, secrete themselves in the woods on the outskirts of the pasture and watch for their victims. When a large number is gathered the hunters begin the chase, heading the animals for the opening of the inclosure. The kangaroos soon find themselves prisoners and the farmers kill them with heavy clubs. In the open, the "old men" kangaroos cannot fight well. If they cannot back up against a tree, the battle to them is almost sure to be lost.

The farmers skin them, dry the pelts and export them to England, where they are made into fine leather for boots and shoes. Are your shoes waterproof? Probably they are made of kangaroo hide, for being water proof is what makes the leather so highly prized. Boots and shoes made from kangaroo skin may be bought in almost any shoe store in the United States. There is a great demand for the leather, and dealers cannot get enough of it to supply their trade.

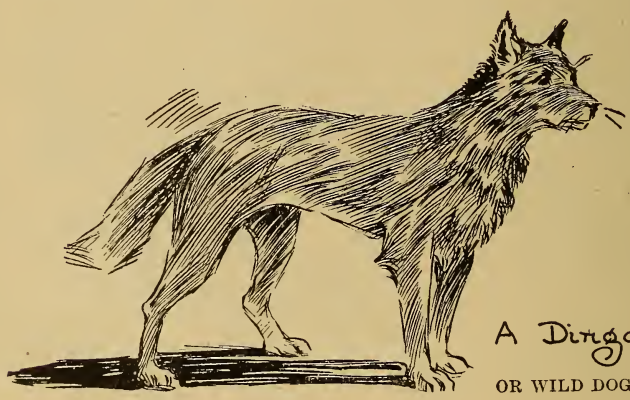
Flesh from young kangaroos is much prized. The steaks from them are said to be very delicious. The natives formerly lived on them almost entirely, as far as their meat was concerned.

CHASE OF KANGAROOS, AUSTRALIA.

They hunted them in several ways, often killing them by the skillful throwing of the boomerang. Sometimes they would get near to them by covering themselves with branches to resemble a small tree,

Taking a spear between the toes, they would move slowly towards an intended victim. When near enough, with unerring aim the spear was thrown and the animal was captured.

Probably their most common method of hunting them was with dingoes, the wild dogs of Australia. They are handsome shaggy creatures, something like our collie, but of a very fierce disposition. They also preyed so much on the herds of sheep, that the ranch-



OR WILD DOG.

men have killed them off, until they have almost entirely disappeared.

Let us come from our hiding places and observe the actions of the kangaroos. At once they see us. For a moment they sit erect, and then make for the woods in great bounds, fifteen and twenty feet to a leap. It is a curious sight. They do not touch their forefeet or their tails as they go flying over the ground. We cannot keep from laughing at their awkward movements.

A VISIT TO TASMANIA.

Shall we make a little visit to Tasmania, before starting on our long voyage home?

About one hundred and fifty miles south of Melbourne we arrive at a heart-shaped island named for the Dutchman, Abel Tasman, who discovered it.

When we find that this island is almost as large as Ireland, and that it would make three of our Massachusetts, we have another south sea surprise.

The island is worth visiting for the beautiful scenery alone. Travelers whom we meet from all parts of the world tell us that it is as beautiful as Scotland and by one traveler it has been called the "Switzerland of the South Pacific."

And, indeed it is no wonder, for it is all mountains and valleys. We find thousands of tourists here, and we can go from one end of the island to the other by rail, or take delightful trips by coach.

The island is a great health resort, and tourists from all over the world fill its hotels and boarding houses. They wander by beautiful lakes and waterfalls, through fern covered parks, and find health and pleasure away down here more than two thousand miles south of the equator.

Tasmania has over 200,000 people and the capital and largest city, Hobart, contains over 40,000 inhabitants. It nestles in the hills, with mountains at its back.

The streets are laid out at right angles, but they are all up hill and down. A ride through them on top of a big double deck street car affords us considerable

fun. Our ride consists mostly of jerks, except when the clumsy car takes us down hill.

The people of the island are mainly engaged in fruit raising, farming and mining.

Here we are treated to delicious strawberries, raspberries, grapes, and other small fruits. Apples are very plentiful, and are shipped to England in great quantities.

Large farms grow thousands of bushels of wheat. Other farms are devoted to sheep-raising. The sheep farms here are not as large as those of Australia, and the sheep probably receive better care. Many of the sheep are worth $1,000 apiece, and some bring as high as $5,000.

Gold is also mined in Tasmania, but tin mining is carried on extensively. The largest tin mines in the world are on this island. Silver, copper, iron, and coal are also found here in large quantities. All of these facts lead us to look upon Tasmania as an island of great wealth and importance.

THE NEW ZEALAND ISLANDS.

Before we leave Tasmania let us look again at our maps. Our next and last place to visit is the group of three islands known as New Zealand.

Turning our maps "upside down" there is something very familiar about the shape of the islands.

They seem but a little way from Tasmania, yet it will take us four days on the Pacific before we reach Wellington, the capital. We touched at these islands on our way to Australia, and had the promise of a visit before our return to America.

AN ABORIGINE.

If Tasmania would make three Massachusetts, New Zealand would make several more. This boot-shaped group has a combined area of 105,000 square miles. The coast, which is irregular in shape, measures nearly 4,000 miles.

We had a vague idea that New Zealand was inhabited by savages, but here we find large cities, with factories, mills, fine banks, large stores, elegant churches and school houses, the outlying districts being laid out in fine farms.

True, New Zealand has her aborigines, about 40,000, but they have mostly become civilized. They are called Maori (Mowry). The men are large and fine looking. They have chocolate complexions and high cheek bones. Most of them dress in European clothes, though of course, savage like, they are fond of bright colors.

The Maori women might be handsome were it not for the tattooing which covers their chins and lips. They have beautiful eyes and are very intelligent.

The Maoris were formerly cannibals. Now they are Christians. They have their own churches and schools, and most of them speak English. Every year they are less in numbers, and in traveling through the country we see very few.

What we see is a progressive, wealthy country, full of business and activity.

The great industry of the country is sheep raising, which is carried on both for wool and mutton. New Zealand has 20,000,000 sheep, and receives an income every year of more than $32,000,000 for its wool, mutton, and tallow. The wild lands and hills are given

up to the raising of the handsome Merinos, the moist soil to the Lincolns, and the dry plains to the Leicesters. So we find every bit of the land of the island used in some way.

A visit to the freezing factory shows us how they prepare the mutton to be shipped, and a visit to the

PURE MERINO.

wool factories shows us what becomes of the fleecy wool from the backs of these fine old sheep.

There is work for everybody, and the wages are high.

Factory people here in the islands look healthy and happy.

If we had time to run down to Invercargill we should visit the most southern city of the Pacific, but our stay is now short, and New Zealand holds yet many attractions.

In the South Island, we visit the beautiful pink terraces, which look like colored marble. They form the basins of geysers. There are many of these boiling springs in this vicinity. The natives often boil their potatoes in these springs, or bake them on the hot rocks. They are used as baths for invalids. There are also mud springs into which people get and almost bury themselves in the mud, which often cures them of diseases, especially rheumatism.

Traveling northward to Aukland, we pass through the famous gum forests, from which $3,000,000 is made every year. The gum is a rich yellow. It oozes from the trunks of the trees, runs down to the ground and hardens in chunks on the top of the ground and underneath the surface. The chunks vary from the size of a walnut to 100 pounds each. The gum diggers often make $25 a week. The gum is mostly used in making fine varnish for furniture.

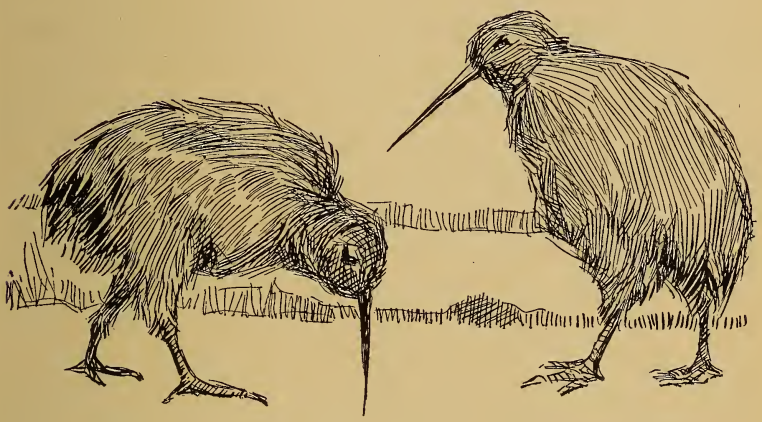
There are curiosities here as well as in Australia. Nowhere under the sun except in New Zealand will we see vegetable caterpillars. They really look like caterpillars, with a stem growing from the head, the caterpillar itself being about two inches long.

What are those ridiculous birds walking about? They have no wings, and are the most awkward looking animal you can imagine. They are called kiwis, and live in the thick ferns of the wood.

At Aukland we find ourselves in the "Naples of

New Zealand." Do you know why it is so called? Naples rests at the foot of the great volcano, Vesuvius, in Italy. See if you can find a country in Europe shaped like New Zealand. There you will see the famous volcano, Vesuvius.

Aukland is compared to Naples because back of it rises Mt. Eden, and before it lies the bay. Within a district of ten miles from the business portion of the city, are the cones of more than sixty volcanoes,



THE KIWIS OR WINGLESS FOWLS OF NEW ZEALAND.

which, at some time, have been active. In 1851, Aukland experienced a severe earthquake, which raised the land along the sea shore for many miles.

But, even with the promise of a pension in old age, such as all New Zealanders receive after sixty-five birthdays have passed, we cannot stay here forever. We are a long ways from home. Our good ship is waiting for us in the harbor. The whistle calls us to get aboard for our homeward voyage.

HOMEWARD BOUND.

As the last bit of land fades from our sight, we realize that the broad and deep Pacific Ocean will be our home for many days. Three weeks from the "Golden Gate!" It seems a long time.

As night comes on the stars come out and we still miss our old comrade the "Dipper." Over the waters our voices ring with the old song, "The Dearest Spot on Earth."

America ought to be the *dearest* spot to us, but in the long voyage we have learned that there are other *great* countries besides our own.

We love our own land the best, but we admire the progress which we have found in the great island continent of the "Southern Seas."

The great cities surprised us, the curious things in nature interested us, and the hospitality of the people has delighted us.

On our homeward voyage we review the year. What treasures of knowledge we have gained! We have visited many countries, but there is much more of the world to see. We have almost "scoured" the Pacific Ocean in our desire for new sights and scenes, but on the other side of the broad Atlantic, treasures in art, beautiful scenery and great cities await us. Let us hope that our "Little Journeys" to those lands will be as delightful as those we have taken in the past.

Eagerly we watch for our shores. They are sighted at last, and soon we are in the harbor of San Francisco, "home again from a foreign shore."

TEACHER'S SUPPLEMENT.

A Little Journey to Australia.

The class, or travel club, has now completed the study of Australia, and is ready for a review. In order to make this interesting, let the work be summed up in the form of an entertainment called—

AN AFTERNOON OR EVENING IN AUSTRALIA.

For the afternoons abroad, given as geography reviews, or as a part of the Friday afternoon exercises, invitations may be written out by the pupils, or mimeographed or hectographed, and carried to friends and parents.

If given as an evening entertainment and illustrated by stereopticon views, handbills may be printed and circulated, at least a week beforehand. The following form may be used:—

SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.

A TRIP TO AUSTRALIA FOR TEN CENTS.

You are invited by the pupils of the ——— school [or the members of the Travel Class or Club] to spend an *evening* (*or afternoon*) *in Australia.*

The party starts promptly at 1:30 P. M. (or 8 P. M.) the——. Those desiring to take this trip should secure tickets before the day of sailing, as the party is limited. Guides are furnished free.

The proceeds of this entertainment are to be used in the purchase of a library and pictures for the school.

SUGGESTIONS.

The exercises should be conducted and the talks given by the pupils themselves. Some topic should be selected by each pupil, or assigned to him, and with this topic he should become thoroughly familiar.

Geographies, books of travel, magazine articles and newspapers should be consulted until each pupil has his subject well in hand. He should also, where possible, secure photographs, pictures or objects with which to illustrate his talk. At its close these should be placed upon a table, or the chalk tray, that visitors may examine them more closely.

If the entertainment is given in the evening, the teacher may be able to use stereopticon views.

These will prove a very great attaction to both pupils and parents, and should be secured if possible. The lantern with oil lamp may be easily operated by the teacher while the pupils give the descriptions of the pictures or give talks about the country.

The lanterns and slides may be rented for the evening or afternoon at reasonable rates, and the cost covered by an admission fee of from ten to twenty-five cents.

A leader, or guide, may be appointed to make the introductory remarks, and to announce the numbers of the programme.

Other pupils speak of the journey to Australia, the people, industries, plant and animal life, scenery and special features of the country.

In the *Leisure Hour* for 1899 are a number of stories of Australia. One or more of these might be read aloud to the class, or used as a reading during the afternoon exercises.

"Widderin's Race," a poem in Longfellow's Poems of Places, vol. XXXI, page 18, may also be read or recited.

Let one number consist of short items of interest about Australia. These may be read or recited by a number of pupils, one following the other, without names being called.

For afternoon exercises decorate the blackboard with a border of gold wattle (Australian acacias) . Across the center of the board print in large letters "Australia, the Land of the Dawning," or "Queen of the Pacific." Over the board place pictures of the King and Queen of England, who count Australia among their possessions.

For invitations have pupils mimeograph a number of outline maps of Australia. The invitations may be written or printed on these.

Tea and wafers may be served if light refreshments are desired. The Australians are great tea drinkers. Every afternoon and every evening tea is served to each member of the family. Sugar and milk are served with this drink, and the tea is made very sweet.

CLASS WORK.

Do *all* the pupils understand the term "Australasia?" Explain that the islands Tasmania and New Zealand, which lie south of Australia, are supposed to have been a part of Australia; that at one time they were joined to Asia, and for that reason the term "Australasia" is given to them.

Do pupils know the difference between continental and oceanic islands? Explain that continental islands lie near the coast and are detached parts of the mainland.

Oceanic islands are either volcanic or coral. Explain how these coral islands and reefs are formed. Show pieces of coral which help to form them.

The coral animal is not an insect. It is a polyp that secretes a dense calcareous skeleton out of the lime which is found in the sea. The coral polyp lives only in warm or tropical seas.

We somtimes see the word "atolls." What are they? Is there any difference between these and the barrier reef? The Great Barrier Coral Reef of Australia is one of the wonders of the world. These reefs make it necessary to employ a great number of pilots for the large vessels. But even then a number of ships are wrecked every year on these reefs.

Why is it not possible to use the beach for bathing at some places? Have pupils find pictures of the octopus, or "cobbler," which annoys the bather on the coast of Australia. The dictionary or encyclopædia will give cuts of this creature. It uses its arms to creep, swim and sieze its prey. If it comes near one in the water it squirts out a horrible juice, or acid. This causes inflammation, swelling and pain, and the bathers are careful to keep clear of it.

Read the poem "The Coral Grove," in the supplement of the Little Journey to the Philippines Take a trip to Torres

Strait, north of the Great Barrier Reefs. Thursday Island will interest us, for it is the headquarters of the pearl shell fisheries.

There are about three thousand people here; many of whom are engaged in the pearl, pearl shell and trepang fisheries. Mother-of-pearl in large quantities has been found in these waters. It is sometimes found in shallow water and may be gathered with the hand, but is usually collected by a diver.

The diver goes out to sea in a vessel and must dive from seven to twenty fathoms in order to find the pearl. Some of these men are aborigines from the mainland, but the best divers are often the Chinese, Japanese and Manila men. The best mother-of-pearl brings over a thousand dollars a ton.

Sometimes very valuable pearls are obtained from these shells. These pearls vary in size and shape. Some of the finest are worth from one to two thousand dollars.

We must also learn something of the *trepang* fisheries. These fishes have cucumber-shaped bodies, which they can contract or expand. The mouth is surrounded by tufted tentacles. The fish are picked off the reef during low tide or obtained by diving. They are then cured, bagged and shipped to market. The Chinese are very fond of this fish, and great quantities of it are shipped to China.

The oyster fisheries is another important industry. The coxcomb oyster is found in these waters. A pair of the shells of this oyster sometimes weighs over six pounds. Secure articles made of or ornamented with mother-of-pearl for the product table. Merino cloth, kangaroo shoes, and perhaps a can of kangaroo soup, would lend interest to the Australian exhibit.

PROGRAMME.

1. Introductory remarks by the Guide.
2. Recitation—"Australia"—a poem.
3. History of Australia.
4. Geography.
5. Climate.
6. Government.
7. Voyage.

8. Song: "Far, Far at Sea," Fountain Song Book No. 1.
   Recitation: "To the North Star."
9. Melbourne.
10. The Aborigines.
11. Travel in Australia.
12. Sydney.
13. Sheep Raising.
14. The Gold Fever.
15. The Pearl Industry.
16. Glimpses of other Cities.
17. The Song of Australia.
18. Animal Life.
19. The Kangaroo.
20. Story of the Emu
21. Plant Life.
22. Tasmania.
23. New Zealand Islands.
24. Items of Interest.
25. Recitation: "The Parrot."
26. Homeward Bound.
27. Song: "Home Again."

AUSTRALIA.

"There is a land in distant seas,
Full of all contrarieties.
There beasts have mallard bills and legs,
Have spurs like cocks, like hens lay eggs.

There parrots walk upon the ground,
And grass upon the trees is found.
On other trees another wonder—
Leaves without upper side or under.

There pears you'll scarce with hatchet cut;
Stones outside the cherries put;
Swans are not white, but black as soot;
There neither leaf, nor root, nor fruit,
Will any christian palate suit,

THE SONG OF AUSTRALIA.

Mrs. C. J. Carleton.

Carl Linger.
Arr. by Mrs. Jessie L. Gaynor.

1. There is a land where summer skies Are gleaming with a thousand dyes,
2. There is a land where honey flows, Where laughing corn luxuriant grows,
3. There is a land, where, floating free, From mountain top to girdling sea,

Blending in witching harmonies, in har - mo-nies; And grassy knoll and
Land of the myrtle and the rose, yes, fair - est rose; On hill and plain the
A proud flag waves exultingly, exult - ing - ly; And freedom's sons the

for - est height Are flushing in the ro - sy light, And all a-bove is
clus - t'ring vine Is gushing out with purple wine. And cups are quaffed to
ban - ner bear; No shackled slaves can breathe the air—Fairest of Britain's

az-ure bright, Aus-tra - lia, Aus - tra - lia, Aus - tra - - - lia.
thee and thine, Aus-tra - lia, Aus - tra - lia, Aus - tra - - - lia.
daughters fair, Aus-tra - lia, Aus - tra - lia, Aus - tra - - - lia.

From "Songs of All Lands." Used by permission of American Book Company.

Note.—In "Songs of All Lands" teachers will find a valuable aid in the Afternoons Abroad. It is a collection of patriotic and national songs of many countries, together with folk-songs from a variety of sources. All the chief songs are capable of being made texts for studies in geography, ethnology, and race characteristics.

HOME AGAIN.

MARSHALL S. PIKE.

1. Home a - gain, home a - gain, From a for - eign shore! And
2. Hap - py hearts, hap-py hearts With mine have laughed in glee; And
3. Mu - sic sweet, mu - sic soft, Lin- gers round the place; And

FINE.

oh, it fills my soul with joy To meet my friends once more.
oh, the friends I loved in youth Seem hap - pi - er to me;
oh, I feel the childhood charm That time can - not ef - face.

pp

Here I dropped the part - ing tear, To cross the o - cean's foam,
And if my guide should be the fate Which bids me long - er roam,
Then give me but my homestead roof; I'll ask no pal - ace dome;

1st stanza in D. C.

But now I'm once a-gain with those Who kind - ly greet me home.
But death a-lone can break the tie That binds my heart to home.
For I can live a hap - py life With those I love at home.

Unless in desperate need you'll fill ye
With root of fern and stalk of lily.
There stead of bread and beef and broth
Men feed on many a roasted moth.

There missiles to far distance sent,
Come whizzing back from whence they went.
There quadrupeds go on two feet,
And yet few quadrupeds so fleet.

There birds, although they cannot fly,
In swiftness with the greyhound vie.
With equal wonder you may see
The foxes fly from tree to tree.

And what they value most, so wary,
These foxes in their pockets carry.
The sun, when you to face him turn ye,
From right to left performs his journey.

The north winds scorch, but when the breeze is
Full from the south, why then it freezes.
Now of what place can such strange tales
Be true with truth,
But New South Wales?"

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

"O beauteous Southland! land of yellow air,
That hangeth o'er the slumbering, and doth hold
The moveless foliage of thy valleys fair,
And wooded hills like aureole of gold.

O land, God made thee wondrous to the eye!
But his sweet singers thou hast never heard.
He left thee, meaning to come by and by,
And give rich voice to every bright winged bird.

He painted with fresh hues thy myriad flowers,
But left them scentless; ah! their woeful dole,
Like sad reproach of their Creator's powers,
To make so sweet, fair bodies, void of soul.

L. of C.

He gave thee trees of odorous, precious wood,
But midst them all bloomed not one tree of fruit;
He looked, but said not that his work was good,
When leaving thee all perfumeless and mute."

—J. B. O'Reilly.

HYMN TO THE NORTH STAR.

"The sad and solemn night
Hath yet her multitude of cheerful fires;
The glorious host of light
Walk the dark hemisphere till she retires;
All through her silent watches, gliding slow,
Her constellations come, and climb the heavens and go.

On thy unaltering blaze
The half-wrecked mariner, his compass lost,
Fixes his steady gaze,
And steers, undoubting, to the friendly coast,
And they who stray in perilous wastes by night
Are glad when thou dost shine to guide their footsteps right.

And therefore bards of old,
Sages and hermits of the solemn wood,
Did in thy beams behold
A beauteous type of that unchanging good,
That bright eternal beacon by whose ray
The voyager of time should shape his heedful way."

—William Cullen Bryant.

THE PARROT.

"The deep affections of the breast
That heaven to living things imparts,
Are not exclusively possessed
By human hearts.

A parrot from the Spanish Main,
Full young, and early caged, came o'er
With bright wings to the bleak domain
Of Mulla's shore.

To spicy groves, where he had won
  His plumage of resplendent hue,
His native fruits and skies and sun,
  He bade adieu.

For these he changed the smoke of turf
  A heathery land and misty sky,
And turned on rocks and raging surf
  His golden eye.

But petted in our climate cold,
  He lived and chatted many a day,
Until, with age from green and gold,
  His wings grew gray.

At last, when blind, and seeming dumb,
  He scolded, laughed, and spoke no more,
A Spanish stranger chanced to come
  To Mulla's shore.

He hailed the bird in Spanish speech;
  The bird in Spanish speech replied;
Flapped round his cage with joyous screech,
  Dropped down, and died."

—THOMAS CAMPBELL.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ABOUT AUSTRALIA.

FLOATING MATS.

Among the wonders of Australia are its floating grass mats. These are found in the creeks and lagoons of Queensland. The grass has roots, but these do not attach themselves to the earth. They become interwoven with the stems of the plant and form such strong masses that horses can walk on them.

TOADSTOOL LAMPS.

In Australia is found a toadstool which gives forth light at night. It is of a pale-green hue, resembling the glow of the earth-worm. Several of these toadstools placed in a dark room will give enough light to enable a person to see to read.

THE SPINY ANT-EATER.

Among the curious animals of Australia is the spiny ant-eater. It is much like our porcupine. It has quills, and when alarmed rolls itself up in a ball. It can swim well, although its feet are not webbed, and when pursued disappears very rapidly in the earth or sand. It lays eggs like birds, and hatches them.

A BIRD-BEAST.

Did you ever see an animal half bird and half beast? This is what the duck-bill seems to be. It has the bill and webbed feet of a duck and the body of an otter. Its body is covered with brown fur, something like plush. It resembles a mole, somewhat. It is about one foot in length. The hind feet are armed with spurs and exude a poisonous liquid. It also lays eggs and hatches them.

A FRILLED LIZARD.

The frilled lizard is another queer looking animal. It is about two feet long, and has a loose skin about its throat, which it can erect like a broad lace collar. When startled it rises on its hind legs and jumps like a kangaroo.

AUSTRALIAN BUTTERFLIES.

It has been said by travelers that in Australia the butterflies bathe. They back into the water, remain a few seconds, and then fly away.

THE PARROT.

The parrot is the most common bird found in Australia. There are all kinds and sizes. They vary in size from three feet to five inches. Their voices are very harsh, but many of them can be taught to talk. They are restless, tricky and bad tempered, but affectionate. They use their hooked bills to help them in climbing. They use their feet as hands. One of the most beautiful of the species is the cockatoo. It is white, with wings lined with red and brillliant red among its tail feathers.

THE TRAVEL CLASS.

Nothing in the study of geography is more interesting or helpful to pupils than the taking of imaginary journeys. It makes geography a *live* subject.

Suggest that your pupils organize a Travel Club, and that some of the trips be personally conducted.

Maps and a globe should be in constant use. The home should be the starting point. Railroad circulars, maps and time cards for free distribution will be found valuable. Pupils should be taught how to *use* these maps and time cards.

Give pupils a choice as to routes or roads over which they are to travel. Each pupil, however, should be able to give a reason for his preference for any particular road, and must know the number of miles and the time required for the journey. The road or route voted upon by the majority may then be decided upon, and preparations made for the trip.

Find out the best time to go to each particular country, and the reason. What clothes it will be best to wear and to take with one. About how much money it will be necessary to spend on such a trip, and when and where this money should be changed into the coin or currency used in the country we expect to visit.

A *Guide* may be appointed to obtain time-tables, maps, railroad guides, the little books of travel, or other descriptions of routes and of the parts of the country that are to be visited. (Further suggestions in regard to these "helps" will be found elsewhere in this book.)

The principal features of the country passed through may be described, if time permits; also the more important cities. Note the population, occupations, productions, together with anything of special interest or historical importance associated with the city or locality.

The *Guide* takes charge of the class in the same way that a tourist guide would do. He escorts us from the home depot to the city, state, or country, pointing out the route on a map suspended before the class.

Arriving at the city or country, he takes us to the various points of interest, telling as much about each as he is able, and answering questions pupils may wish to ask. If the guide can not answer all questions, the teacher or some other member of the party may.

When the guide has finished with a topic or section, other members of the party may give items of interest concerning it.

A different pupil may act as guide to each city or part of the country visited, and each pupil should come to the class with a list of questions about the places.

Every pupil in the class may take some part, either as guide, or as the class artist, musician, librarian, historian, geographer, geologist, botanist, zoologist, or man of letters.

A *Historian* may tell us of the history of the country, and answer all questions of historical interest.

A *Geographer* may tell of the location on the globe, of the natural land formations of mountains, canons, prairies, rivers, etc., and of the climate resulting from these. He should illustrate his remarks.

A *Geologist* may assist and show specimens of minerals and fossils, or pictures of these.

A *Botanist* may tell us of native plants, useful or ornamental, and show pictures of these if possible. A *Zoologist* tells of the native animals, their habits and uses.

The geographer, geologist, botanist and zoologist direct the work at the sand table, and assist in reproducing the country in miniature.

The *Merchants and Tradesmen* tell us of the products for which their country is noted, and show samples of as many as it is possible to secure. They also tell what they import, and why.

A *Librarian* or Correspondent may visit the library for information sought by the club. He must be able to give a list of books of travel, and be ready to read or quote extracts referring to the places visited on the tour.

He or his assistant may also clip all articles of interest from papers, magazines, and other sources, and arrange these, as well

as the articles secured by other pupils, in a scrap-book devoted to each country.

The *Artist* and his assistant may tell us about the famous artists and their works, if any. He may illustrate his remarks with pictures, if he can obtain or make them.

The *Club Artist* may also place upon the board in colored crayons the flag, the coat-of-arms, and the national flower of the country.

A *Photographer* may be appointed to provide or care for the photographs and pictures used in the class talks. The photographs may often be borrowed from tourists or others. Pictures may be obtained from magazines, railroad pamphlets, the illustrated papers, or from the Perry Pictures, and mounted on cardboard or arranged by the artist in a scrap-book, with the name of the country on the cover.

If the members of the travel or geography class are not provided with the "LITTLE JOURNEYS," the teacher should have at least two copies. The pictures from one of these books should be removed and mounted for class use. They may be mounted on a screen or on cardboard, and placed about the room or grouped in a corner. They should be allowed to remain there during the month, that all the pupils may have an opportunity to examine them.

Another pupil may collect curiosities. Many families in each neighborhood will be able to contribute some curio. Pupils in other rooms in the building will be interested in collecting and loaning material for this little museum and picture gallery.

Coins and stamps may be placed with this collection. Begin a stamp album, and collect the stamps of all the countries studied. The stamps of many countries show the heads of the rulers.

The album should be kept on the reading-table with the scrap-books, in order that pupils may have access to it during their periods of leisure.

Dolls may be dressed in the national costume or to represent historical personages.

This form of construction work may be done outside of school hours by pupils under the direction of the historian and artist.

The dolls, when dressed. may be made the centers of court, home, field or forest scenes arranged on the sand-table.

A *Musician* or musicians may tell us of the characteristic music of the country, and of famous singers or composers. She may also sing or play the national song or air of the country, if there be one.

The singer should be dressed in national costume, if it is possible to secure it, or to make it out of calico, paper, or some other cheap material.

A *Man of Letters* may tell of the famous men and women of the country through which we are traveling, and may visit their homes with us. He may call attentlon to the literature of the people and give selections from noted writers from or about the places visited.

REFERENCE BOOKS.

Australia, Powell.
Victoria in 1880.
History of Australia, Rusden.
Australia, Eden.
Under the Southern Cross, Ballou.
Australian Handbook.
Through the Tropics, Vincent.
Australia, Bonwick.
Australian Aborigines.
Bush Life in Queensland, Grant.
New Homes, Powell.
Warburten, Across Australia.
Islands of the Pacific, James M. Alexander.
Australasia, Greville Tregarthen.
Picturesque Australia, Cassell.
Australia, Edwin C. Booth.
Among the Cannibals.
South Australia, Harcus.
Boy Travelers in Australia, Knox.
Australia and the Islands of the Sea, Eva M. C. Kellogg.
Stories of Australasia, Mara L. Pratt.
Letters to Chicago Sunday Record-Herald (from March to June, 1901), Frank G. Carpenter.
Illustrated London News (January to June, 1897).
Harper's Weekly (January, 1897).
Cosmopolitan (May to October, 1896).
Scribner's Magazine (1891).

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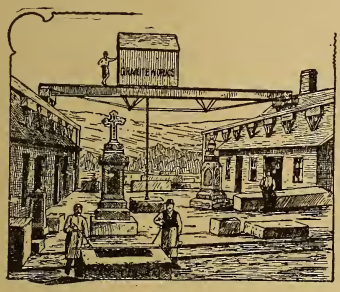

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